The Chickasaw Times
Post Office Box 1548
Ada, OK 74821

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Permit No. 1
Oklahoma City, OK 731

Chickasaw Times

One Tribe One Mission

Vol. L No. 2 | Official publication of the Chickasaw Nation | www.chickasawtimes.net | February 2015

Chickasaw Times app now available

The Chickasaw Times app provides fast and easy access to news and events of the Chickasaw Nation while you are on the move.

Two upcoming events to celebrate St. Valentine Day

Love Story Concert and Valentine Card Making Set Feb. 12 in Ada

An evening filled with tales of romance and everlasting love is planned Thursday, Feb. 12, at "Love Stories"- a story concert and Valentine card making event.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m., at the Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities Black Box Theater, 201 N. Broadway in Ada. Guests will design and create their own handmade, old-fashioned Valentine.

The story concert begins at 6:30 p.m., and will feature tales about all types of love – from friendship and family to classic stories of romance, shared by traditional Chickasaw storytellers Lorie Robins, Stephanie Scott and Dixie Brewer.

The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. Call (580) 272-5520 for more information.

Valentine Celebration, "Dinner and a Movie" Feb. 14 at Chickasaw Cultural Center

Saint Valentine Day, Saturday, Feb. 14, the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur will be commemorating the holiday with card making, heart-warming movies and sweet treats during the annual Valentine Day Celebration.

The family-friendly event features several activities including Valentine-themed crafts and a special stomp dance to commemorate the holiday.

Families can enjoy the free Valentine Day Celebration from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

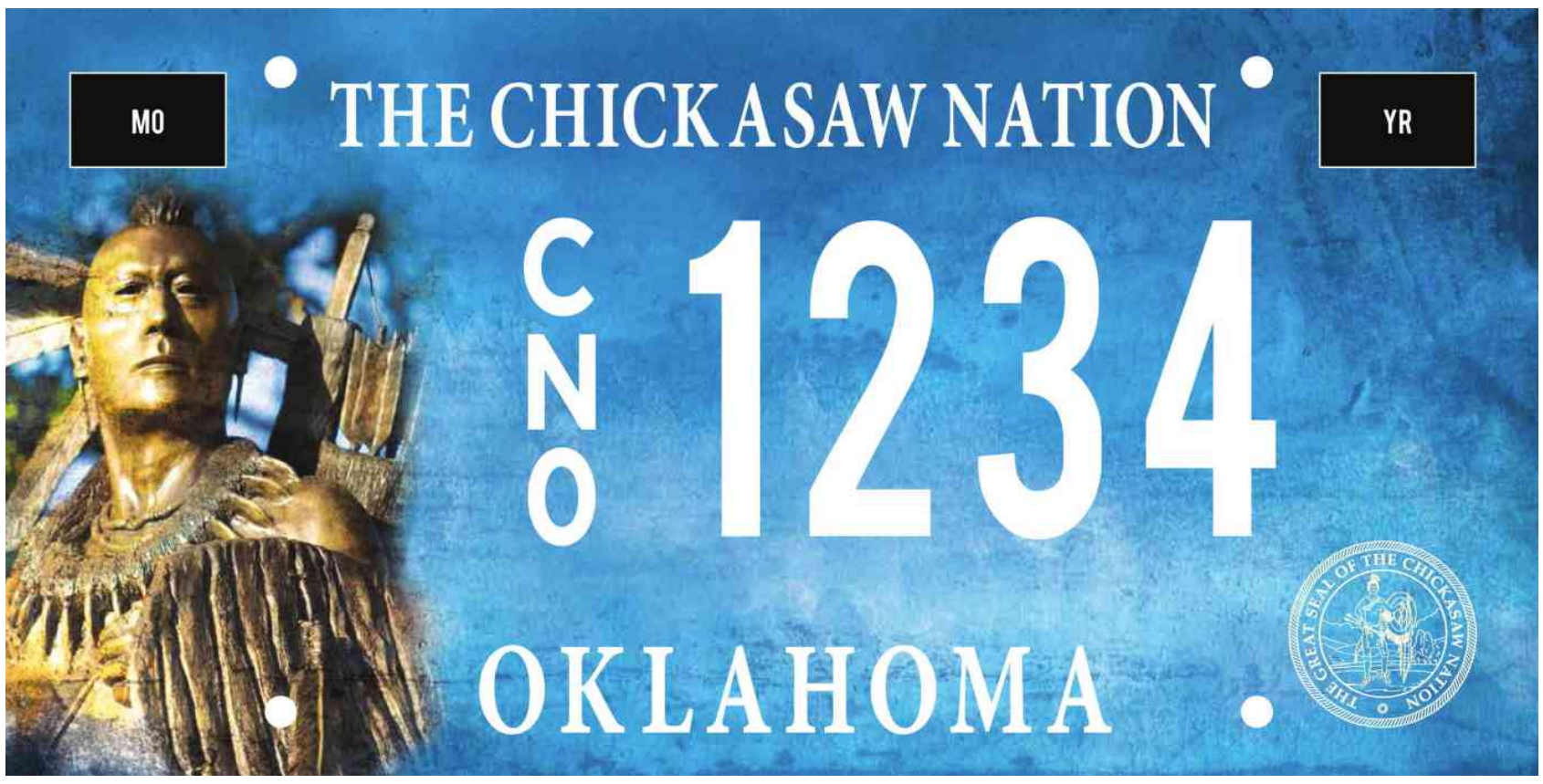
A special "Dinner and Movie" event will begin at 5 p.m., Feb. 14. An exceptional Valentine dinner menu will be served and the classic fairytale "The Princess Bride" will be shown. The cost is $25 per person. Reservations are required and seating is limited.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Cultural Center at (580) 622-7103 or visit www.chickasawculturalcenter.com

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday noon -5 p.m. The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Cooper Memorial Road in Sulphur, Okla.

Chickasaw Times Online

New Chickasaw license plates available to citizens



An image of the new Chickasaw license plate. The plates are available to Chickasaw citizens who register their vehicles in Oklahoma.

Chickasaw Nation license plates will be available February 2, 2015 at state-licensed tag agencies throughout Oklahoma.

Governor Bill Anoatubby said the license plates offered Chickasaws a very visible way to demonstrate their pride.

"Many Chickasaws are very pleased they will have license plates which recognize their tribal citizenship," Gov. Anoatubby said. "These plates also offer savings to Chickasaw citizens while continuing vehicle tag funding dedicated to roads, schools, state employee retirement and other state programs."

Those who want to purchase the tags will present their Chickasaw Nation citizenship card matching the name on the registered vehicle at the time of purchase.

While license plates requested between renewal dates will be subject to an additional fee for a replacement plate, standard fees and taxes will apply to tags purchased at the regular renewal date.

After the transaction, the Oklahoma Tax Commission will notify the Chickasaw Nation and send a rebate for a percentage of the fees and taxes.

The Chickasaw Nation will then issue a rebate for a portion of the fees and taxes to each citizen purchasing a tag.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby and Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin sign agreements establishing Chickasaw Nation license plates in Oklahoma. Chickasaw citizens who register their vehicles in the state can purchase the new tags beginning February 2.

SEE **LICENSE PLATE**, PAGE 2

Chickasha Holitoplichi propels Chickasaw grads

East Central (OK) University graduates and Chickasaws Jessica Stewart, left, and Kayla Wood with their diplomas and honor stoles at ECU graduation, Dec. 13, 2014.

Chickasha Holitoplichi Honor Program is available to students beginning their sophomore years through graduation. The program includes classification change incentives, degree completion incentives and the opportunity to receive the Chickasha Holitoplichi Stole.

Five Tribes Council calls for expanded opportunity, energized fed engagement

TULSA, Okla. – Delegates to the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes called for expanded interaction with federal agencies through President Barack Obama's White House Council of Native American Affairs.

The unanimous vote calls on the U.S. Congress to enact legislation to allow more federal agencies to enter into self-governance compacts and contracts with tribes under the auspices of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

The five tribes – Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw and Seminole – point to President Obama's June 2013 executive order calling on the federal government "to work across executive departments, agencies and offices to coordinate development of policy recommendations to support tribal self-governance and improve the quality of life for Native Americans."

The order also calls on the government to engage tribal governments and tribal communities.

The tribes desire consultations among tribal nations and federal agencies for the purpose of "developing a legislative proposal to expand the scope of existing laws … that honor tribal self-governance and capabilities for tribal programs." Such initiatives would better serve the unique needs of tribes and Natives, according to the resolution.

The resolution passed by delegates would add increasingly expansive interaction to all levels of the federal government not specifically spelled out in the original 1975 Indian Self Determination Act.

In addition to weighty matters affecting its more than 500,000 citizens, the Council took time to celebrate the largest group to ever attend an Inter-Tribal Council meeting. Organized in 1950, the five tribes formed the coalition to speak with one voice concerning important Indian matters. More than 520 attendees were on hand at the first 2015 quarterly session of the Council.

Other resolutions gaining unanimous approval by delegates at the session included:

· Opposed a proposed rule of "Definition of Waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act." According to delegates, the wording would "drastically expand the federal government's jurisdiction over land and water resources" and place "onerous burdens on individual, tribal members and tribal businesses through expanded regulatory permit requirements." The delegates called such wording "un-

SEE **INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL**, PAGE 2

First Baby of 2015

ADA, Okla. – Asher William Redus, son of Kelly Redus, is the first baby of 2015. Asher was born at 11:01 a.m., Friday, Jan. 2, at the Chickasaw Nation Nation Medical Center in Ada. Asher weighed 8 lbs., 2 ounces and measured 20.5 inches at birth.

Asher joins his proud big brother, Grayson, who will turn two in March. The Redus family is from Wayne, Okla., and are Choctaw citizens.

The family received an infant car seat and gift basket from the Medical Center to mark the occasion.

LEFT: Kelly Redus, of Wayne, Okla., welcomed her son, Asher William Redus at 11:01 a.m., Friday, Jan. 2, at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada.

Chickasaw family built replica canoe to demonstrate technique

Aapisa Art Gallery featuring 'Dugout Canoe' through May 5

SULPHUR, Okla. - One of the many things visitors enjoy at the Chickasaw Cultural Center is the Aapisa Art Gallery. Meaning "a place to see," the gallery is located next to the Gift Shop and Welcome Center. The 1,200 square-foot exhibit area features revolving Native American art exhibits surrounded by beautiful architecture.

The Aapisa Art Gallery is currently hosting the "Dugout Canoe Exhibit: Paddling through the Americas" on loan from The Department of Mississippi Archives and History. The ancient canoe dated from 1500-1600 A.D. was found by a group of high school students. It will be on display through May 5.

The canoe was made from a single bald cypress tree. The bow end is narrower than the stern indicating the bow was the upper end of the tree. Charred patches at each end of the interior indicate it was hollowed out by controlled burning, chipping and scraping. Scars indicate stone tools, not metal ones, were used in the manufacture of the canoe. The bottom is rounded in cross section and slopes up to the horizontal platforms at either end.

Both platforms have a major crack. Each platform has two holes, one on either side of the crack indicating repair holes. This means the cracks occurred during manufacture or use. A third rectangular hole is present in the bow platform, and the crack now splits it.

The canoe was probably made and used between 1500-1600 A.D.

Of the many species of trees native to the Chickasaw homelands, the cypress was primarily used for canoe building due to its shape, strength, workability and rot resistance. These trees were hollowed out and used to carry supplies to and from villages and carry out daily activities.

The Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Chickasaw Cultural Center visitors explore the Dugout Canoe exhibit on display through May 7.

A Chickasaw Nation Cultural Resources team contacted the Underwood family, a Chickasaw family that has built canoes for many years, to help build a replica of the original canoe in hopes of handing down the art to future generations.

"I think about that day, and I think about how excited everyone was here," Cultural Resources director Eddie Postoak said. "You didn't have to tell anyone to pick up anything. You could tell their heart was in it."

The building of the Underwood canoe took place in the Chickasaw Cultural Center Village as visitors watched and kept tabs over time.

"When it first started out as a tree everyone was asking, and their first question was, 'is it going to be a canoe?'," Chickasaw Nation History & Culture executive officer Lori Hamilton said. "We had several people interested in coming back to watch the project progress of the canoe and watch its transformation."

Using traditional and modern tools, and under the leadership of Dennis Underwood, the canoe was completed and is currently on display in the Chickasaw Cultural Center Living Village in Sulphur, Okla.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Cultural Center at (580) 622-7130.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

warranted and unnecessary" since tribes – working in tandem with local, state and federal governments, have illustrated exemplary stewardship of land and water resources on a voluntary basis.

· Endorsed the Oklahoma Native American Juvenile Justice Task Force efforts to develop a memorandum of understanding between the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs and tribal government systems. Council delegates desire a collaborative effort between tribal court systems and the agency to meet the "unique needs of at-risk Native youth" and believe tribal communities and justice systems are best equipped to support prevention, intervention and reintegration for Native youth.

· Called on the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service to collaborate with the Council to protect, develop and interpret Fort Armistead, a historically significant Maryland site for Cherokees and Creeks due to forced removal to Indian Territory.

· Supported creation of an exclusive Council working group for deciding complex issues in regard to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and National Historic Preservation Act. The five tribes noted they have responded to thousands of federal inquiries involving the Acts. It seeks a comprehensive coupling to address sensitive issues in the future.

· Called for the swift reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). The act expired Sept. 30, 2013, and is currently operational via extension. The Council asked Congress to include Native American veterans and reauthorization of the Section 184 Home Loan Guarantee Program. The resolution also asked Congress to reauthorize the act for a minimum of five years.

· Urged reauthorization of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st century (MAP-21) Act. The act is slated to expire in May. The Council said now was the time to build on the act to provide necessary funding for roadway allocations for the five tribes. The ITC called for amendments to increase tribal transportation funding from $450 million to $500 million per year; increase public transportation funding to $40 million annually and set aside $35 million for apportionments and $5 million for discretionary grants.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Governor Bill Anoatubby, right, and Muscogee Creek Nation Principal Chief George Tiger share a light-hearted moment during presentation of gifts to the leaders to the Five Civilized Tribes during the Inter-Tribal Council general session January 9 in Tulsa.

LICENSE PLATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

All non-commercial vehicles registered to Chickasaw citizens are eligible. License plates may be purchased for multiple vehicles within the same household.

Personalized Chickasaw license plates will be available at the same cost as other personalized plates. Chickasaws who wish to purchase a personalized plate may contact their local tag agency for information regarding costs and availability.

Gov. Anoatubby and Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin signed the license plate compact October 23, 2014.

Availability of the Chickasaw license plates is dependent on the Oklahoma Tax Commission delivering license plates to tag agencies.

For more news and information log on to www.chickasaw.net, www.Facebook.com/TheChickasawNation, and www.Twitter.com/ChickasawNation.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, Media Relations.

Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

The Chickasaw Times is published by the Chickasaw Times, 210 E. Main St., Ada, OK 74820, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821 monthly with two special issues published one in June and one in September.
Subscriptions are free.

Send mail to:
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Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Learning your Chickasaw culture is important - and fun!

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, the Chickasaw Nation

As Chickasaws, we have a unique and special history that stretches back over countless generations.

Our people originally made their home in a large territory that encompassed portions of what is now the Southeastern United States. Much later, in the 1830s, our people were removed from their homelands and settled in the modern Chickasaw Nation.

Our ties to our Chickasaw ancestors are deep and far-reaching. Our people developed important traditions we continue to honor today. They developed a beautiful spoken language, an inclusive system of government, caring communities, a trading economy and a respected warrior tradition.

Our Chickasaw heritage and culture are keys to who we are and where we are going in our lives. It impacts our lives each day. Nurturing our Chickasaw essence is of tremendous importance.

Today, the Chickasaw Nation is investing substantial time, energy and resources in preserving, promoting and celebrating our Chickasaw heritage and culture. It is absolutely imperative we do so.

Your tribe offers you a wide range of programs and outreach to help you engage your Chickasaw roots fully.

Our greatest cultural opportunity is the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur. The Cultural Center is ground zero for all things Chickasaw. There, you will find countless opportunities to discover new and exciting things about who you are and where you came from. Traditions abound at the Cultural Center. From art to music to language and all things in between, the Cultural Center will launch your imagination. There is so much to learn and enjoy about who you are!

The Holisso Center at the Cultural Center offers important documents, artifacts and other elements that directly relate to who you are as a Chickasaw. There are so many amazing discoveries waiting for you there. Scholars, family historians and many others have found information at the Holisso Center that creates a much deeper understanding and connection to those important Chickasaw roots.

And while the Cultural Center is the biggest visible edifice announcing the importance of our culture, there are many other programs your tribe offers – and they are just waiting for you!

We now have a tremendous selection of Chickasaw language classes, seminars and products. We are utilizing the amazing skills of our fluent Chickasaw speakers to help others learn – and use – our language. Most of our youth programs now incorporate our language in their daily processes. There are lots of great resources available to you. There are even wonderful Chickasaw flash cards for our children!

And there is so much more. Your Chickasaw heritage is so vitally important, we want you to access all the great programs. Each of these programs is designed to heighten your knowledge, your understanding and your appreciation of who you truly are.

Your heritage is very special. You deserve to engage in the fullness of who you are and what your heritage means in your life. We are proud of the journey our people have traveled. It's appropriate that we honor our heritage by making it a main focus in our lives.

Won't you join us today? It doesn't matter where you live or what's going on in your life. Your tribe wants you to be fully connected, fully energized by the Chickasaw experience.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Chickasaws built foundation schools as part of early education drive

Prior to the 1820s, pre-removal Chickasaws in Mississippi who wanted to formally educate their young people sent them to the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky and to Plainfield Academy in Connecticut. Then, around 1820, Christian missionaries entered the Nation and petitioned the U.S. government and Chickasaw leaders to be allowed to establish schools within its borders. From 1820 through 1826, the Presbyterians and Baptists opened both boarding academies and day schools. The schools reached many Chickasaw pupils, but closed after the Pontotoc Treaty sealed Chickasaw removal to Indian Territory.

Harley Institute students.

When the Chickasaws arrived in the new land, they didn't find the rich, fertile countryside they left in Mississippi. They found a trackless wilderness – no homes, no villages, no cultivated fields, no churches, no schools and no one to teach their children.

IDENTITY CHALLENGES IN INDIAN TERRITORY

Historian Arrell M. Gibson, among a chorus of historians, chided the Chickasaw Nation for its dereliction in providing educational opportunities, pointing out that the Chickasaws seemed to be the last of the civilized tribes to do so after reaching Indian Territory.

Consideration of the facts tells a different story.

In Indian Territory, the Chickasaws became part of the Choctaw Nation, but refused to allow their children to attend Choctaw schools, fearing Chickasaw youths' loss of their roots. The first band of Chickasaws didn't leave Mississippi until mid-1837. Their leaders petitioned the U.S. government in 1842 for schools of their own. No action concerning the matter was forthcoming. Some writers of the time blame bureaucratic or U.S. Congressional procrastination, continually moving the matter to the "back burner." Others say U.S. agents in the field were at fault. Still others claim it was a combination of all factors.

In 1844, Methodist Reverend E.B. Duncan established a mission church at Pleasant Grove near Fort Washita as his circuit-riding base. His wife began a day school for Chickasaw children, the first school in the Chickasaw District of the Choctaw Nation. But Mrs. Duncan's school, with an enrollment of from 30-40 pupils, was fully operated by the Methodists. The Chickasaw Nation was not involved.

In 1848 the Chickasaws, in conjunction with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, who paid one-sixth of the financing, let contracts for the Chickasaw Manual Labor Academy. The school was located 10 miles northwest of Fort Washita. The academy opened in 1852 with 60 pupils, both boys and girls. This was followed by the opening of Bloomfield Seminary near Achille, not far from the Red River. When the first building was completed, it became a neighborhood school for both boys and girls, but when all the buildings were finished, Bloomfield became a boarding school, and later a finishing school, for girls.

When Bloomfield opened, the Chickasaw Manual Labor Academy became an all-male school. Colbert Institute, also built by the Chickasaw Nation and the Methodists, was at Perryville, in the Choctaw District. It also opened in 1854 and accommodated Chickasaws living in that area. Both boys and girls attended there, as well. Colbert was moved 50 miles west into the Chickasaw District in 1856 on the headwaters of Clear Boggy River. It was renamed Collins Institute after the War Between the States.

The Presbyterian Church built the Wapanucka Female Manual Labor School for Chickasaw girls near Wapanucka. The Chickasaws paid three-fourths of the expenses and the Presbyterians one-fourth. The school opened in 1852 with facilities to accommodate 100 pupils.

In 1857, the Chickasaw Council adopted legislation to erect a fifth school near Lebanon which they named Burney Academy. However, the War Between the States began before the academy could open and was not used as a school until after the war.

By 1851, six neighborhood (elementary) schools were in operation with a total enrollment of 180 pupils. These were free public schools financed by appropriations from the Chickasaw national fund, although local communities and parents also contributed much toward school needs. Following Chickasaw emancipation from the Choctaw Nation and the establishment of the tribe's own constitution, the Chickasaws founded 26 neighborhood schools throughout the nation. Faculty members were required to meet standards set by the tribal superintendent of schools. Schools varied from crude, one-room log houses to modern buildings of that period. English was the official instruction language.

Chickasaw Rock Academy.

CIVIL WAR – DESTRUCTION AND REBUILDING

All schools closed at the onset of the War Between the States. Many school buildings were damaged, burned or demolished during the war. Others were used as field hospitals, barracks or administrative centers. The Chickasaws aggressively sought to rebuild and reopen their schools after the war. The U.S. government had stopped paying the Nation's annuity when the Chickasaws declared themselves free from federal administration and joined the Confederate cause. In 1867 the U.S. finally agreed to begin paying the annuity again. Chickasaw officials opened 11 neighborhood elementary schools that year.

In 1876, the Chickasaw legislature increased the number of neighborhood schools to 23 – eight in Pontotoc County and five each in Panola, Pickens and Tishomingo counties. This legislature also reopened four seminaries and academies for second-level studies: Chickasaw Male Academy, Bloomfield Female Seminary, Wapanucka Institute and the Lebanon Orphan School, the latter two co-educational.

Now having total say-so concerning their schools, the Chickasaws stopped domestic servant training for their girls and farming for their boys and concentrated on academic studies. Most religious study was also discontinued. Subjects included reading, writing, arithmetic, English, Latin, logic, biology, geometry, music and specialized courses according to each school's plan and mission.

After the war, the Chickasaw Legislature approved the Superintendent of Public Instruction's plan to operate the schools on a contract basis. Neighborhood school contractors furnished teachers, books and supplies. In addition, academy-level contractors provided room, board and clothing. Contractors, who were primarily Chickasaws, were responsible for most building issues, even firewood. Instructors were also Chickasaws in most cases.

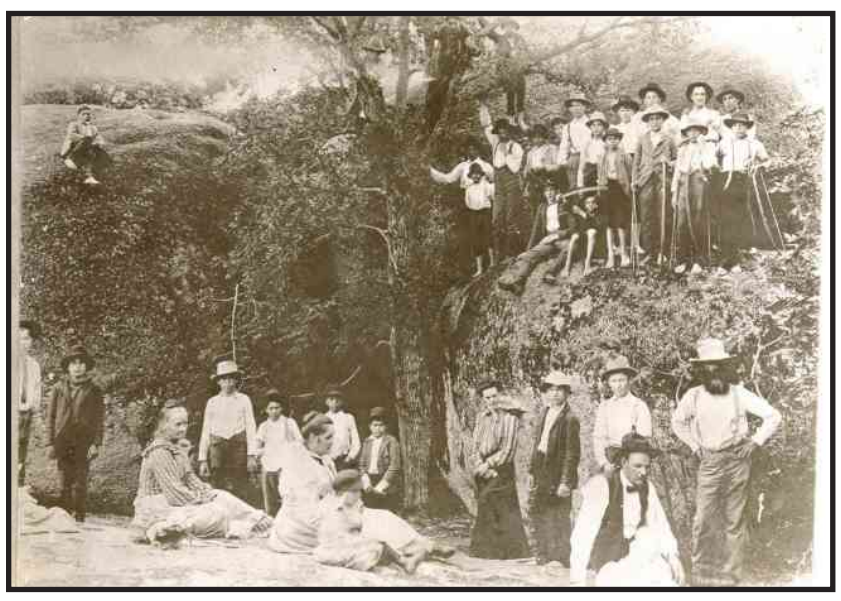
When Douglas H. Johnston left Bloomfield as contractor/superintendent to become Governor of the Chickasaw Nation, his successor, Elihu B. Hinshaw, instituted the summer teacher training schools, which resulted in both better teachers overall and helped those teachers who were Chickasaw to better instruct their young brothers and sisters.

Harley Institute

The Chickasaw Nation operated its schools even past the legislated date for them to be turned over to the U.S. government. However, after 1898, U.S. officials had final say in educational matters, including setting curricula, qualifications for teachers and teacher appointment. The Chickasaws turned over the schools completely before Oklahoma statehood.

What was the result of Chickasaw educational efforts and sacrifices? An unknown writer in *The Daily Ardmoreite* of Sunday, May 16, 1976, quotes a U.S. government official of Indian Territory time as saying, "… notwithstanding the fact that the Chickasaws expend a larger amount per capita for strictly educational purposes than any other tribe." Former Oklahoma Governor and attorney for the Chickasaw Nation William H. "Alfalfa Bill" Murray, in his four-volume history of Oklahoma, stated, "The effect of (the Neighborhood Schools) was that after the United States Courts were established in 1893, it was the experience of all the attorneys that often-times a white man or a Negro could not sign his name to the witness rolls, but invariably the young Indians could."

CONTRIBUTED BY Josh Rogers, Public Affairs.



Harley Institute Students

Harley Institute Students

Join the Holisso Research Center in March for genealogy classes

Chokma, Chinchokma? Hello, how are you?

I've often stated that my greatest pleasure in being a legislator for the Chickasaw Nation is getting to meet fellow Chickasaws all around the United States. The conversations often turn to questions such as, "What is your family name?" or "Who are you related to back in Oklahoma?"

Many times common ancestors are found, and I discover a part of my family that I never knew before. Some people have very specific reasons for tracing their family tree. Others jump into family history research without giving it much thought.

NANCY ELLIOTT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

So, if you're kicking off the New Year with a commitment to research your family history, you may want to visit our Holisso Research Center at the Chickasaw Cultural Center on March 14. On this day, the Holisso Research Center will be highlighted and classes will be held to teach visitors about the importance of genealogy and how to conduct their own genealogy research. Other activities planned for this day are a lecture on genealogy, a kids' family tree activity, a panel discussion with family genealogists, and a help session for Ancestry.com.

According to an article at www.genealogyintime.com, "Genealogy is the second most popular hobby in the world after gardening. Genealogy is history on a personal scale. It helps satisfy a deep need to understand how we fit into the broader world around us. Genealogy is more than just a collection of single family threads passing through time. It truly is a journey of many lifetimes woven together from the past, the present and the future."

As you know, there is no shortage of books or internet sites that can help you in your genealogy research. In fact, the amount of information available, particularly on the internet, can be overwhelming at times.

That's why, the best place to start researching your family history is to ask members of your own family. They will know more about your family than anyone else. Most families have at least one person who has taken the time and effort to collect the family history and archive important family documents. Then bring this information with you when to come to the Holisso, and there you will find knowledgeable people to help you go from there.

I hope you enjoy researching your family as much as I do. We are very blessed that the Chickasaw Nation has such a wonderful resource available to us all. Please let me know if I can help you in any way.

Chipisala cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net
580-399-4374

Inter-Tribal Council serves growing nations of over 500,000 people

Chukma! Chin Chukma to all my friends in the great Chickasaw Nation. I hope this finds you all well and enjoying your new year. Have you broken any New Year's resolutions yet?

This time of year business kind of slows down so we haven't had that many resolutions in the Legislature. This month we considered only one resolution authorizing a business lease for sand and gravel mining in the Arkansas Riverbed. The royalties are paid 50% to the Cherokee Nation, 37.5% to the Choctaw Nation and the remaining 12.5% to the Chickasaw Nation.

DEAN MCMANUS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

We had 69 new babies delivered in January at the CNMC. We are increasing the Chickasaw Nation little by little.

As you have probably heard, our Te Ata movie is almost finished. I can't wait to see it! Te Ata was a beautiful representative of our Chickasaw people.

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes quarterly meeting was January 8-9, 2015 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The host for the meeting was the Muscogee Creek Nation. The programs presented 10 resolutions which all passed with one tabled. I am so honored to be a Council member for our Nation on this august body. Present representatives from the Chickasaw Nation are Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel, Secretary of Commerce Bill Lance, Secretary of Health Dr. Judy Goforth-Parker and myself as Legislator. I am so proud of the way the Inter-tribal Council takes care of our combined people of the Five Civilized Tribes. Together the Council serves over 500,000 citizens.

The April quarterly meeting will be hosted by the Chickasaw Nation at Winstar Resort. Please, sometime if you can, visit a quarterly meeting to hear all the reports of each tribe and discover the issues common to all. Upon their visits to Washington, D.C., the Inter-tribal Council is a very impressive body that has been successful in gaining advantages with the Federal Government that might not have otherwise been accomplished.

Please visit with me at dean.mcmanus@chickasaw.net or call me at (580) 436-1460.

Chi ihullo li! (I love you!)
Dean McManus, Pontotoc District Seat 4

Lots of activity and improvements under way at Medical Center

Chukma and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District. As some of you know, I have been out on sick leave recuperating from a hip replacement. I apologize that I did not publish an article in last month's issue of the Times. To my memory, that is the first missed issue in 16 years. For those of you who called and sent emails of encouragement, Thank You! The doctors say that I am progressing well and mastering the art of walking with a cane. In a few months, I hope to put it back in storage!

MARY JO GREEN

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Most unfortunately, I missed Thanksgiving and Christmas with the seniors. I love you elders and hope to see y'all again real soon.

Three of us attended the Oklahoma City Community Council. I enjoy all of them and they had a really good program with tribal historian Richard Green as the speaker. They always have speakers who hold your interest and Richard is one of the best. I enjoy our tribal history and have heard him speak on several occasions with each one a learning experience.

We have a new Under Secretary of Health who is running our Chickasaw Nation Medical Facility - Richard Barker. Richard comes to us from a hospital in Marietta, Oklahoma, where he is CEO. He is also the husband of our Legislative Chairperson Connie Barker. Richard has a full base knowledge of health systems and will be working closely with Secretary of Health Dr. Judy Goforth-Parker.

Our doctors are being hired throughout the year, some as associates and most with years of specialized experience in their particular field. The Department of Health reports that last month they saw 700 patients in Internal Medicine, 5,076 Emergency Room visits, 1,559 pediatric patient visits, 3,322 dental visits, 4,271 patient visits in Family Practice, 69 visits in OBGyn, 330 surgeries performed and 418 surgical visits. This is several hundred more than this month last year so we continue to provide quality health care for more Indian patients each year.

Music composed by our world-renowned Chickasaw composer Jared Tate was presented by the Norman Philharmonic Orchestra in Norman on January 18. I wish y'all lived close enough to experience Jerod's music. It is very moving and uplifting.

A special thanks to all you Chickasaw voters who re-elected me to this Legislative position. I am truly honored to serve you! Chipisala'cho!

I would love to hear from you. My email address is mary.green@chickasaw.net and my address and telephone number are listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you.

Strong leadership at the top of our tribe has been key to hitting our goals

Our Nation, Our Government, Our Sovereignty have been and continue to be a sacred movement of trust and solidarity across every citizen of our Tribe.

We have been resilient, which has led us to the knowledge that we have and will continue to have sustainable government and control over our destiny. This is a precious concept to me, since I have worked so hard to represent our people as have other Legislators, our Judicial branch and importantly our Executive Branch.

CONNIE BARKER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

I have said to many during community gatherings, as well as other avenues of fellowship, that we are a strong Nation due to our Strong Leadership. If we don't have the Mission and Vision of our Nation in the forefront, we then sometimes hesitate on the visionary elements necessary to navigate us through strong financial acumen.

The successes of any organization rest with the Leadership developing business plans and pursuing industries, services, programs, alliances among other things to navigate the ship into the harbor. If we only maintain our course, but fail to negotiate the harbor, we have setbacks.

Through my course of leadership within the Nation I have had the privilege to see first hand that the course is established, the navigation is impeccable and we arrive where we need to arrive each time we venture a movement to enhance the lives of those we serve – Chickasaw.

Thank you for the privilege to serve and I want to say to each one of you that you have blessed me and I will continue to work for you and earn the trust that you have placed in me.

Thank you and God Bless you.

Connie Barker
Tribal Legislator
Pickens District

Panola District resident has deep roots in the Chickasaw Nation

For this month's article I decided to spotlight some of our Panola District citizens.

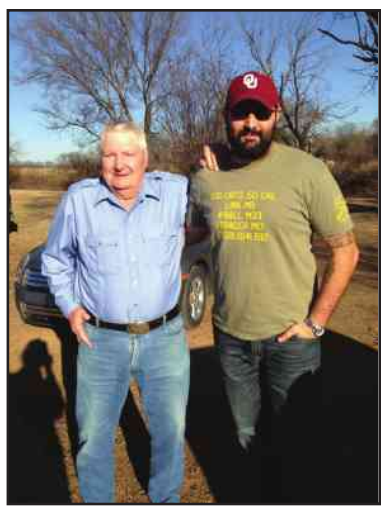
Both Mr. Clinton D. Little and his grandson, Clinton Dereck Little call the Liberty Bottom/Kemp area of Oklahoma, home. Clinton's grandmother, Elsie Delilah Reynolds was an original enrollee on the Dawes Roll. Elsie and her husband, Jack, had 11 children. The oldest one was Clinton's father, Clarence Doyle Little. Clarence and his wife, Bernice Southard had 2 children Helen Fay and Clinton Doyle Little.

BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Clinton was born and raised in Kemp, Oklahoma. After graduating Kemp High school he and a buddy decided to volunteer for the draft. (Clinton points out that volunteering is different than being drafted.) He landed in the Army for a two year stint and received an honorable discharge in October of 1956. After the service, Clinton headed back to Oklahoma to work in the oil fields and do cattle ranching. He also was known to do farrier work and enjoyed the rodeo circuit participating in busting broncs and calf roping.

Today you will find Clinton living and ranching on original allotment land. He enjoys taking care of his cows and when not out in the pasture, he likes to watch sports. Clinton is up to date on football and when it comes to basketball, prefers to watch women's basketball. "Seems like they work harder and have more action."



Mr. Clinton and his grandson, Dereck Little

Dereck Little followed in the family footsteps and joined the Army for a 4 year hitch and then had a 1 year extension (known as "Stop Loss"). After serving two tours of duty in Iraq and finishing up with a tour in Kuwait, he was honorably discharged in 2006. Dereck is on another mission now. He is currently a student at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and is enrolled in the Native American Studies Program.

One of the family photos taken at Kemp, IT. Isaac Newton Little.

He not only shared many photos of his ancestors but also gave me a tour of the family land and original home. The house is over 100 years old and is still standing! Both Clinton and Dereck reminded me that there are many of their kinfolks in the Panola District: the Turners, Nichols, Ricks and Dobbins to name a few. It was mentioned, "Can't throw a stick without hitting someone related."

What a nice way to spend a sunny and peaceful afternoon, hearing stories and learning from other Chickasaws.

A quick note of encouragement to those of you still on the front line battle of sickness and recovery or those who have loved ones that have passed. Many thoughts and prayers for you and your families.

"Who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." II Corinthians 1:4

Beth Alexander (580) 283-3409

Programs & Services Directory available

The 2015 Programs & Services Directory is now available for download at Chickasaw.net/servicedirectory. Hard copies will soon be mailed directly to all Chickasaw citizens.

The Programs & Services Directory contains information about all tribal programs and services. Inside the directory are program descriptions, contact information and office locations.

Daily exercise increases longevity

Chuckma,

Hope everyone is having a happy, healthy, and prosperous beginning to the New Year.

I know a lot of us always make the New Year's resolution of trying to get healthier with exercise. Since becoming the Chairman of the Legislative Healthcare Committee, I would like to take some time and discuss how you can achieve this resolution.

One of the main concerns that we have today for many of us is the lack of exercise in our daily routine. If many of you don't know, my educational background is in Chiropractic. I have been a Chiropractic Physician practicing for almost 15 years. I understand the vital role that exercise plays in the longevity of my patients lives. The lack of exercise affects a lot of my patients not just in their well-being but also in how their bodies hold up against everyday stress. Daily exercise is essential in helping many of my patients with flexibility in their joints and spine.

SCOTT WOOD

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

I have had many patients in my clinic who are in the 80+ year-old age group. All these patients have one thing in common-they stay active. Most of them stay active on a daily basis with pool therapy, weight training, bike riding or walking. Getting motion back into our lives helps us not only physically, but it helps with the daily stresses of life. It is important to get our circulatory system active by pumping blood through the vessels. Increasing circulation through appropriate exercise helps your bones and joints function properly as we age.

I generally tell my patients this scenario: If you take two brand new cars that are exactly the same. Let car #1 sit in the garage for 2-3 years and don't start or drive it. Take car #2 and drive it each day a few miles. Which car do you think will have the least problems? If you said car #2 you are exactly right!

This is how we should perceive our bodies. We have to get out every day and keep our motors running with exercise. Sometimes health conditions prevent us from walking, if they do you can resort to a stationary or recumbent bike. These bikes are made with comfortable wide seats that are very suitable for most people. Aquatic therapy in the pool is another alternative to get ample exercise if you have certain health conditions.

Any type of exercise that you can do to put motion back into your body will change how you feel overall and assist in increasing longevity.

If you have the opportunity, visit one of our Chickasaw Wellness Centers. They provide an experienced staff to set you up with a good exercise regime. Remember always consult your physician first to determine if exercise is deemed appropriate for you. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call anytime.

Chokma'shki,
Scott Wood
Tishomingo District Seat 1
Scott.wood@chickasaw.net
(580)221-1430

Lots of great tourist attractions now throughout the Chickasaw Nation

Chokma,

It's time to visit the Chickasaw Nation!

I know many of you have visited the Chickasaw Nation before but if it has been a few years, I encourage you to come back. The Nation has revitalized the tourism industry in South Central Oklahoma! Our country has always been a hidden jewel with attactions like Turner Falls, the Chickasaw Nation Recreation Area, Lake Murray, Arbuckle Lake and many more.

DAVID WOERZ

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

One of my favorites is, of course, the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, Oklahoma. I was fortunate to spend Christmas there with my family last year. We all packed up and went to spend the day in Sulphur, highlighted by a family dinner at the Artesian. I was so proud to be Chickasaw and I remember thinking how blessed we are as a Nation to provide nearly 13,000 people with jobs. Who would have thought that it would be so successful?

We have been very blessed to have such wonderful leadership and examples over the years. Today it seems as if every exit from the Texas border to Oklahoma City has a Chickasaw destination to visit!

The Chickasaw Nation opened its 18th gaming facility in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Located at Interstate 35 Exit 70 on Airline Road is the Jet Stream Casino. The facility actually opened in July of last year featuring 1,910 square feet of gaming floor with 60 electronic games. You will also find a retail shop, snacks, Bedre' Chocolates and more.

Speaking of Bedre, you must visit the chocolate factory at 37 N. Colbert Road in Davis, Oklahoma. My favorites are the pecan-caramel sensations and don't ask me to share because those are fighting words!

You shouldn't have a problem getting a hotel as they seem to be popping up everywhere. Through intensive tourism efforts by many entities we have now become a DESTINATION! Please come visit us but before you plan your trip visit www.chickasawcountry.com. There you will find all the information you need to plan a vacation to remember.

Be Blessed,
David Woerz
Legislator
Pickens District Seat 1

Special Chickasaw people have been good role models for all

Hello Everybody,

It is with great admiration for two of my most treasured friends, Rose Jefferson and Jeff Frazier, that I share the good news of their impending Chickasaw Hall of Fame inductions!

Rose, Jeff and I go way back. We were in elementary school together at Tupelo, Oklahoma.

KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Sadly, Jeff's selection for the Hall of Fame is posthumous. We lost him in February 2012.

From Tupelo, Jeff went on to marry Betty and earn an education degree and a master's degree in counseling and guidance from East Central University. He taught in Bristow, Oklahoma and counseled in the Oklahoma City Schools. He and Betty had three children and were blessed with grandchildren.

Jeff was also a man of God. He pastored a church in Dallas. Later, he led Mitchell Memorial in Ada and at the time of his passing, he was serving at Boiling Springs Methodist Church.

The attributes and accomplishments that earned Jeff's selection to the CHF will soon be announced. I, however, am sure that his service and devotion to Chickasaw people are primary reasons.

In addition to teaching, counseling and pastoring others, Jeff loved sports. He would gather a group of Indian kids to make a baseball or basketball team. They would have a few practices, and he would take them to a tournament. Fun was had by all!

Jeff was always positive and genuinely concerned about others, even when his health was failing. While he is missed dearly, I still feel his spirit with us and am so grateful that he is being honored in this way.

Like Jeff, my friend Rose Jefferson is another inspiration for us all. Her life illustrates perseverance.

She is the oldest of 13 children born to Joe and Minnie Shields. As a high school sophomore, she went away to earn her high school diploma at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. After graduation, she married and had two daughters.

Her new, small family was then included in a relocation program that took them and other Native Americans to California. The young marriage did not survive, and Rose came home with the girls. Later, she married Gene Jefferson. They had a daughter and the family of five lived in west Texas until Gene retired, and they moved back home to Ada to help care for Rose's mom.

Today, despite the challenges of having rheumatoid arthritis, Rose is very active. She serves in her church, Mitchell Memorial Methodist, and on the board of the Chickasaw Historical Society and as a member of the Chickasaw Election Commission.

Rose is a fluent speaker of the Chickasaw language and helps preserve our culture by beading and teaching her grandchildren and others to speak Chickasaw.

Rose says, "I have always done the best job I could."

I believe Rose has always made the best of life's situations and choosing to live as she has and does wins her a place in my heart and earns her a place in the Chickasaw Hall of Fame.

Respectfully,

Katie

We are building progress as we work together for the good of Chickasaws

Chokma!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District!

While reviewing the 2014 Chickasaw Nation Progress Report and reflecting on all the accomplishments and progress made in the last year, it has reminded me of the enormous strides we, the Chickasaw Nation, have made, especially in the time I have been a legislator.

TIM COLBERT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Working with Gov. Anoatubby, many projects and a multitude of services have been accomplished enhancing the lives of all of our citizens.

In the Tishomingo District, I am pleased we have been able to work together toward one goal and establish new facilities such the Chickasaw Cultural Center, the Artesian Hotel, the Chickasaw Conference Center while remembering and honoring our history with projects such as the rehabilitation of the Capitol building and the Council House Museum.

Throughout the Chickasaw Nation, we have built state-of-the-art medical centers in Ada, Ardmore and Tishomingo and established and maintained vital health care and family services.

Our elders, the ones whose determination and dedication to our tribe led the way to our successes, now can enjoy 12 senior sites located throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

While taking care of our honored elders, we also place a high priority on educating our youth at all stages of their development, from child care to higher education, ensuring we will have talented, accomplished individuals to lead us well into the future.

I am so very proud and honored to have played a very small role in the progress of our Nation.

The strides we have made throughout the past two decades are the realization of our hopes, dreams and goals of yesterday.

But we are not finished.

There are more goals to conquer and progress to be made. Working together, we can accomplish anything.

As always, thank you the privilege of serving as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature.

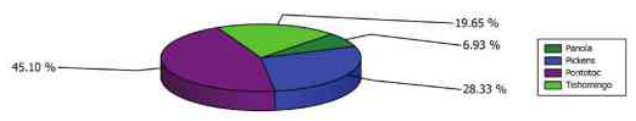
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
580-421-7242

Count of Voters by District

District	Count
Panola	2,111
Pickens	8,630
Pontotoc	13,740
Tishomingo	5,986
Total	**30,467**

Voters by District



Business revenue, net strong through 3 months

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Division of Commerce. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of tribal government, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Business revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes and other sales revenues from convenience stores, travel plazas, tobacco stores, other tribal businesses as well as rental and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, *the Chickasaw Times* and Governor's and Lt. Governor's offices. Expenditures for education include education scholarships as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending December 31, 2014

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled $14.79 million for the month and $44.75 million year-to-date. Expenditures were $14.25 million for the month and $32.52 million year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes through December totaled $327.57 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $76,819,873 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At December 31, 2014, the tribal government funds had $275.09 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $21.77 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $223.06 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of December 31, 2014, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of $1.97 billion.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Three Months Ended December 31, 2014

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	2,625,259	327,565,344	330,190,603
Transfers from businesses to tribal government		41,747,789	(41,747,789)	-
Total funds available		44,373,048	285,817,555	330,190,603
Expenditures				
General government		2,129,209	-	2,129,209
Legislature		757,371	-	757,371
Judiciary		301,707	-	301,707
Education		3,916,317	-	3,916,317
Heritage Preservation		5,631,397	-	5,631,397
Health		4,543,641	-	4,543,641
Youth Services		1,249,071	-	1,249,071
Family Services		3,084,354	-	3,084,354
Nutrition Programs		1,795,241	-	1,795,241
Regulatory		2,970,417	-	2,970,417
Assistance Programs		6,142,178	-	6,142,178
Gaming expense		-	187,134,781	187,134,781
Other businesses' expense		-	63,610,690	63,610,690
Total expenditures		32,520,903	250,745,471	283,266,374
Increase in net assets		11,852,145	35,072,084	46,924,229
Beginning net assets		743,003,190	1,187,670,226	1,930,673,416
Ending net assets	$	754,855,335	1,222,742,310	1,977,597,645

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
December 31,2014

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	$	275,090,238	223,057,529	498,147,767
Receivables		21,239,316	89,608,178	110,847,494
Inventory		152,200	8,732,249	8,884,449
Prepaid expenses		-	23,176,817	23,176,817
Other Assets		-	1,078,138	1,078,138
Fixed assets		460,402,574	1,007,499,113	1,467,901,687
Less payables		(2,028,994)	(130,409,714)	(132,438,708)
Net Assets	$	754,855,335	1,222,742,310	1,977,597,645

Chickasaw citizen receives Governor's Commendation for work in mine safety

Larry Ennis received a Governor's Commendation for his dedication and leadership in mining safety.

Larry A. Ennis, a Chickasaw citizen, recently received a Governor's Commendation for his dedication and leadership for 14 years of service to the Oklahoma Mining Commission, the Oklahoma Department of Mines and the citizens of Oklahoma.

Mr. Ennis was appointed in 2000 by Governor Frank Keating and reappointed in 2007 by Governor Brad Henry.

A 20 year veteran of the mining industry, Mr. Ennis said it was an honor to serve the citizens of Oklahoma and the thousands of employees who work in the mining industry in the State of Oklahoma.

"I always felt that safety for the miners was my first priority as a commissioner," he said. "It was important that I did everything I could to ensure that each and every miner came home safely to his or her family every day."

Chickasaw citizen Nancy McLarry receives genealogy award

Nancy Polk McLarry received the Rachel Morgan Betz award for her outstanding contribution to the Genealogical Society of Kendall County, Texas.

Nancy Polk McLarry, a citizen of the Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas, received the highest award of the year presented by the Genealogical Society of Kendall County in Boerne, Texas. This award, the Rachel Morgan Betz award, is given to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Society through service over several years.

Mrs. McLarry has been President of the GSKC society for three years and has given several speeches throughout the state about her ancestry, including her Chickasaw heritage. She is also a member of the Texas Heritage Commission, DAR, DRT, Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century, Daughters of 1812, and many other lineage organizations.

She is a Chickasaw elder and is presently Secretary of the CCCST in San Antonio.

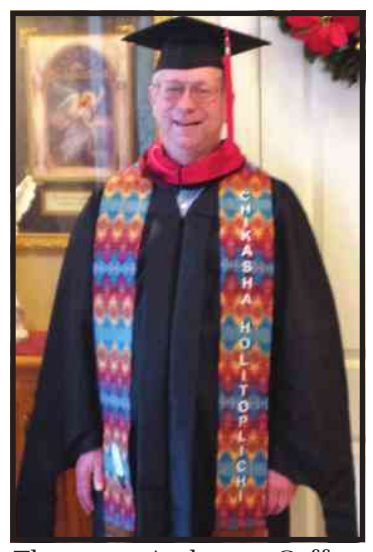
Her father was an original enrollee, Stillwell Russell Polk, and her grandfather was Leonidas (Lon) Polk who married Nancy (Nannie), the granddaughter of Cyrus Harris, the first Governor of the Chickasaws.

Graduations

Kelli Elizabeth Cowan, 26, Chickasaw citizen and daughter of Murray Gross and Tina Hinds, graduated cum laude with her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Northeastern (OK) State University. She was awarded the Chickasaw Honor stole. Her entire education was made possible with assistance of the wonderful grants and scholarships awarded to her by the Chickasaw Nation.

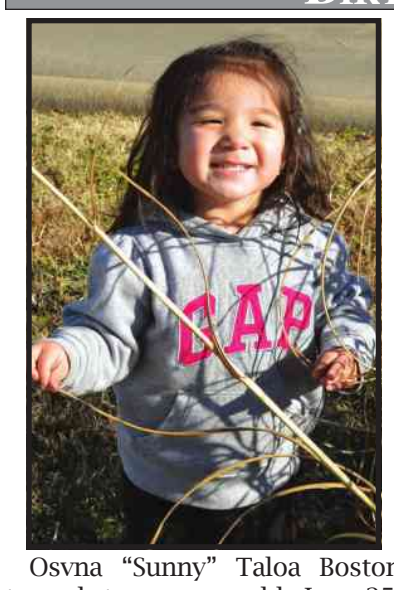
Erika Sandefur graduated from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater with a bachelor's degree in human development and family science. Her cousin, Chickasaw citizen and Provost of OSU, Gary Sandefur, congratulated her on stage.

Ms. Sandefur also received the Chickasaw Honor stole for her GPA. It was an honor that she received this. Her family is very proud of her.



Thomas Andrew Gaffaney graduated with a master's degree in Christian ministry from Dallas Baptist University during winter commencement. Mr. Gaffaney was among the 501 graduates receiving undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees from DBU. During his time at DBU, Mr. Gaffaney was a member of Theta Alpha Kappa and was awarded the Chickasaw Honor stole.

Birthdays



Osvna "Sunny" Taloa Boston turned two years old Jan. 25, 2015.

Sunny is the daughter of Chelsea Fish and Chris Boston, and is the granddaughter of Ted and Nancy Boston, of Tishomingo, Okla. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her parents, sister, Aiaynili, and brother, Noah.

Sunny is Chickasaw, Seminole and Creek and enjoys watching Disney's Frozen, and Curious George. She also enjoys coloring and playing outside.

Margot Hamilton is celebrating her 80th birthday February 5, 2015.

Celebrating her birthday will be daughter, Heather, son-in-law, Gary, and granddaughters, Carrie and Cailen, of Bee Cave, Texas. Also celebrating are her son, David, daughter-in-law, Elizabeth, and grandsons, Max and Ben, of Frisco, Texas, and her youngest son, Matt, daughter-in-law, Pam and grandson, Chet, of Round Rock, Texas.

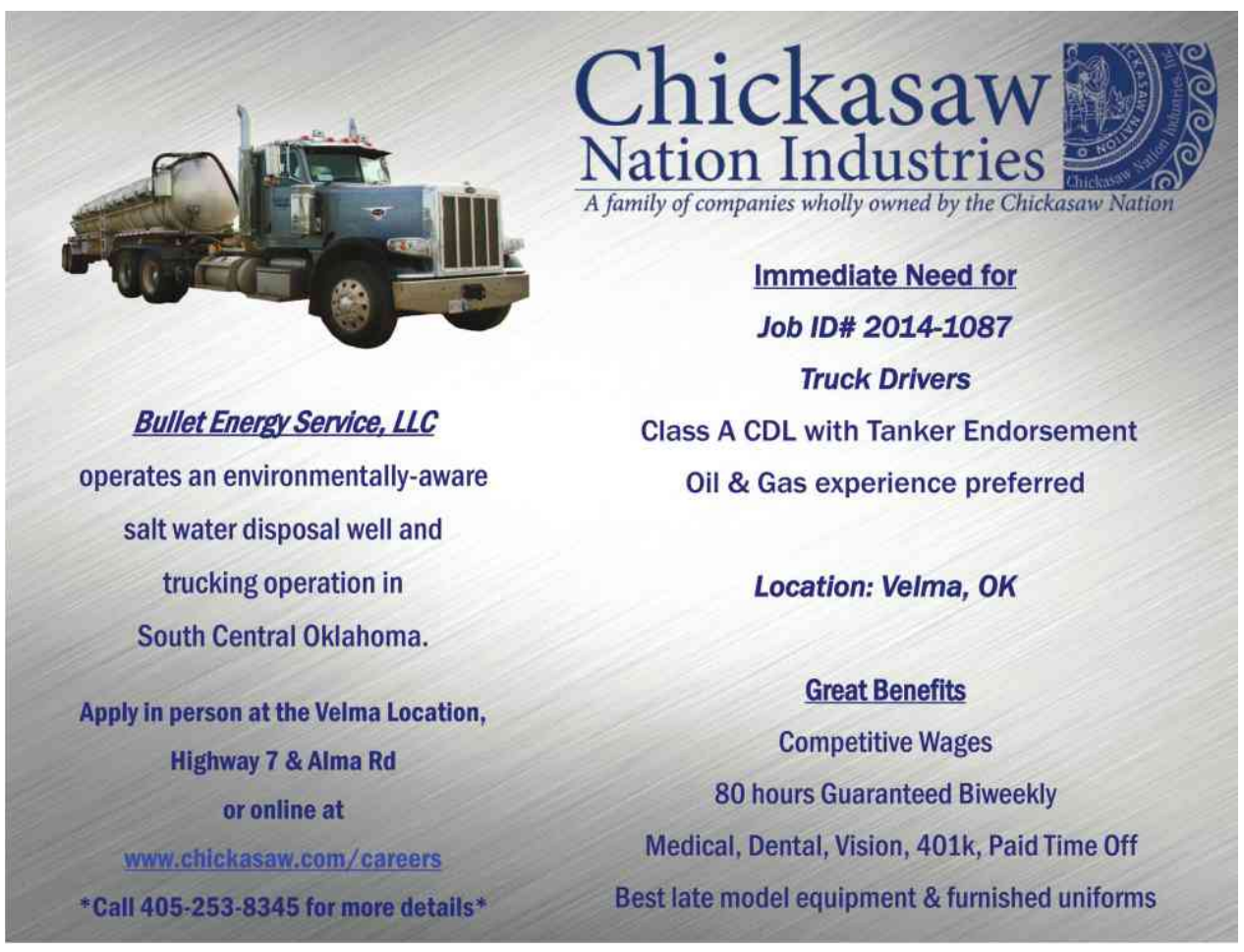
Mrs. Hamilton was born February 5, 1935 in Oklahoma City to Owana and Chester Moore. She is a Chickasaw elder. She is the niece of Geraldine "Gerry" Brown, of Edmond, Okla. Her other Chickasaw relatives include the Meeks, Rennies and Colberts.

Wedding

Chelsea Peugh, a Chickasaw citizen, married Evan Haddick on December 14, 2014 at the Senator Ed Wilkinson Pavilion at Bell Park, in Greenwood, Arkansas.

Mrs. Haddick graduated cum laude and as a member of the Chickasaw Holitoplichi Honors Program in December from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She is currently the After School Project Coordinator at the South Sebastian County Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. Haddick is attending his final semester at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Arkansas, where he will graduate with a bachelor's degree in music.



Smoking cessation efforts, tobacco smoke effects focus of Medical Center program

The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center has partnered with Oklahoma Hospital Association to offer nicotine replacement therapy to patients who want to quit tobacco. The program functions as an electronic referral system working with the 1-800-Quit-Now helpline. The electronic referral system was announced on National Smoke Out Day, Nov. 20, 2014.

The use of tobacco can be not only harmful to the smoker, but also poses a threat to those nearby. People can come into contact with tobacco through secondhand and thirdhand smoke.

Secondhand smoke is any tobacco smoke that is inhaled by the smoker or surrounding people. The smoke is emitted from burning tobacco. Secondhand smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals.

There are two types of secondhand smoke, sidestream and mainstream smoke. Sidestream smoke is emitted from the ignited end of a cigarette, pipe or cigar. Mainstream smoke is the exhaled smoke coming from the smoker. Since the 1964 Surgeon General's Report, which first warned the public about the dangers of smoking, 2.5 million adults, who were non-smokers, but exposed to secondhand smoke, died according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thirdhand smoke is the residue left behind by tobacco smoke. Thirdhand smoke can stick to the smoker and anyone or anything that came in contact with the smoke. As reported by the Mayo Clinic, the residue given off by thirdhand smoke could react with other general indoor pollutants, causing a dangerous mix of chemical reactions. Non-smoking adults, children and infants can be at high risk if they ingest, inhale or even touch substances containing thirdhand smoke.

In addition to the nicotine replacement therapy program, the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline service is provided for free to all Oklahomans and is funded by the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust. When a participant calls the helpline he will talk with a quit coach who has helped hundreds of people become non-smokers. The quit coach will determine which nicotine replacement therapy suits the participant best - nicotine patches, gum or lozenges. The nicotine replacement therapy packet is mailed to the participant. Several follow-up tools are presented on www.helpline.com, to help the participant remain a non-smoker.

For more information about quitting tobacco, contact a representative from the tobacco helpline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW, or visit www.okhelpline.com.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

New co-floor leader

Rep. Lisa Billy tapped for Oklahoma House leadership

OKLAHOMA CITY – Oklahoma House District 42 Rep. Lisa Johnson-Billy has been appointed to a leadership position by Oklahoma Speaker of the House Jeff Hickman (R-Fairview).

Speaker Hickman named Rep. Billy co-floor leader Jan. 8. She will share duties with Rep. Jason Nelson (R-Oklahoma City). Together they are responsible for developing the calendar and directing floor activity, including the scheduling of bills and resolutions for votes on the floor.

Rep. Billy is a Chickasaw citizen and former Chickasaw Nation legislator. She won the District 42 seat in 2004, becoming the first woman, first Native American and first Republican elected to the district. District 42 encompasses all or parts of Cleveland, Garvin, Grady and McClain counties.

"I am very grateful Speaker Hickman asked me to serve in this role," Rep. Billy said. "Debating bills and casting votes get all the attention, but the process behind the scenes is where the rubber meets the road. I really believe the House has a great opportunity to advance a conservative, Oklahoma-values agenda and I am glad I get to be a part of it."

Governor Bill Anoatubby congratulated Rep. Billy on her leadership role.

"Lisa Billy is well-suited to this position because she understands the legislative process and is committed to serving the best interests of all Oklahomans," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We are very proud of the work she has done as a member of the Oklahoma House. She has the intelligence, dedication and commitment to serve the people of Oklahoma well in this position."

Rep. Lisa Johnson-Billy

Rep. Billy organized the Native American House Caucus and served as assistant majority whip for the Oklahoma House before accepting the new post.

The 55th Oklahoma Legislature convenes Feb. 2.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Artist Gene Callaway presented a painting to Gov. Bill Anoatubby during a reception the Governor hosted for friends of the Chickasaw Nation in Tupelo, Mississippi. The painting depicts a village in the historic homelands of the Chickasaw Nation. Dozens of Chickasaw elders and members of the leadership team have taken tours of the homelands to help develop a greater understanding and connection with the early history of the Chickasaw people. The Chickasaw Nation is also working with the National Park Service and the Natchez Trace Parkway to develop a Chickasaw Heritage Center in the area.

Tribe supports mental health outreach, focuses on suicide prevention

Native Americans recorded a high rate of suicide in 2015, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. As of last year, the number of Native American suicides was above the national average. The suicide rate is shown to be higher on reservations.

The Chickasaw Nation is aware of the high rates of suicide in the community and on reservations. The Office of Prevention Services offers a multitude of programs and services to support mental health and suicide prevention.

"This is a community health problem," Deanna Carpitche, behavioral health clinician for the tribal Office of Prevention Services, said. "More people die by suicide than homicide every year in the United States."

A Meth/Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) grant, Ms. Carpitche said, and the support of the Chickasaw Nation help make our communities safer.

The reasons for the higher-than-average rate of suicide among Native Americans, Ms. Carpitche said, are varied.

"Loss and trauma are often common causes of thoughts of suicide" she said. "Unfortunately, Native Americans have experienced plenty of both and often still do."

Suicide prevention programs offered through the Chickasaw Nation include:

· suicideTALK – An exploration in suicide awareness via community gatherings to inform of suicide prevention opportunities.

· safeTALK – A suicide alertness program for everyone. It helps all members of the community identify people with thoughts of suicide and tells them how to connect to first aid resources. Most people with thoughts of suicide need help to stay safe. Alert helpers know how to use these opportunities to support that desire for safety. Upcoming safeTalk Sessions:

Feb. 12, 2015 · 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Department of Family Resources
Conference Room
Suite 4, 1300 Hoppe Blvd.,
Ada, Okla.

March 12, 2015 · 8:30 a.m. – noon
Chickasaw Nation Medical
Center
Green Conference Room
1921 Stonecipher Blvd.,
Ada

April 9, 2015 · 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Department of Family Resources
Conference Room
Suite 4, 1300 Hoppe Blvd.,
Ada

May 14, 2015 · 8:30 a.m. – noon
Chickasaw Nation Medical
Center
Green Conference Room
1921 Stonecipher Blvd.,
Ada

June 11, 2015 · 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Department of Family Resources
Conference Room
Suite 4, 1300 Hoppe Blvd.,
Ada

July 9, 2015 · 8:30 a.m. – noon
Chickasaw Nation Medical
Center
Green Conference Room-30 max.
1921 Stonecipher Blvd.,
Ada

Aug. 13, 2015 · 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Department of Family Resources
Conference Room
Suite 4, 1300 Hoppe Blvd.,
Ada

· ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) – Helps all kinds of caregivers learn suicide first aid intervention. Outcome studies show that participants are more willing, ready and able to help a person who may be at risk of suicide. More than one million caregivers nationwide have participated in this two-day, interactive and practice-oriented workshop. Upcoming sessions are:

Feb. 19 & 20, 2015
Winstar World Casino,
777 Casino Ave.
Thackerville, Okla.
Rooms #1 & 4,
Conference Center

March 26 & 27, 2015
Ada Community Center
700 N. Mississippi, Ada

May 28 & 29, 2015
Ada Community Center
700 N. Mississippi, Ada

July 23 & 24, 2015
Ada Community Center
700 N. Mississippi, Ada

Aug. 27 & 28, 2015
Ada Community Center
700 N. Mississippi, Ada

To schedule a safeTALK and/or ASIST session, call (580) 421-4591.

The Office of Prevention Services also works closely with families whose loved ones have taken their own lives.

When a family member dies from suicide, survivors then become more at risk of suicide because of that death. By talking about it, Ms. Carpitche said future suicides in the same family may be avoided.

"We can conduct post-ventions with friends and family, which are also suicide prevention," she said.

For information on upcoming community training opportunities, contact the Behavioral Health Department at (580) 421 4591.

For suicide help, call (800) 273-TALK.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

47 deaths reported in Sooner state

Oklahoma hit hard by flu virus

The flu season is hitting the Sooner State with a wallop. Since the start of the flu season in late 2014, more than 1,000 Oklahoman's have been hospitalized with flu related illness.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health has reported 47 flu-related deaths in the state since Sept. 28, 2014.

Nationwide, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports 8,199 lab-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations have been reported since October 2014.

According to the CDC, as of Jan. 10, 46 states have seen widespread transmission of the flu and flu-like illnesses.

Influenza, commonly known as the "flu," is an illness caused by RNA viruses that infect the respiratory tract of animals, birds and humans. In people, the infection can result in fever, cough, headache, tiredness, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Most individuals recover within one to two weeks.

Influenza viruses include Types A, B and C. Viruses A and B are the cause of most human infections, with types of A typically causing more severe symptoms.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, more than 84 children under the 4 years of age have been hospitalized due to complications from the flu and flu-related illness since the flu season kicked off. Nearly 1,000 adults 65 and over have been hospitalized.

Americans are more susceptible to the flu this season because different strains of the virus are spreading from person to person. This flu season, a majority of the individuals diagnosed with the flu are testing positive for the A H3N2 strain. The antibodies people have haven't worked as well against this prevalent A H3N2 strain seen most often this flu season.

Even though a majority of the individuals testing positive for flu this season received their yearly vaccination, this should not persuade others not to get the flu shot. Individuals who have been vaccinated might still be at risk for getting the flu. However, studies show the severity of the symptoms is decreased in individuals who are vaccinated.

Vaccination is still considered to be the best defense against the flu. The CDC also considers antiviral medications an important addition to the current flu vaccine for helping control the virus, if a person is diagnosed.

For more information on the flu and ways to prevent the spread of the virus, visit www.cdc.gov/flu, or call your local physician's office to schedule flu shot vaccination.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw researcher finding clues

U.S. Marshals' Museum will include Lighthorsemen

FORT SMITH, Ark. – Michelle Cooke is spending her time diving through historical records, microfilm and published works to accurately define the role of Chickasaw Lighthorsemen who scouted Indian Territory to rid it of outlaws.

Mrs. Cooke has a master's degree in English from Texas Woman's University. She is penning a book about early day tribal law enforcement. The special assistant to Secretary of Culture and Humanities Lisa John has traversed libraries, historical preservation archives and even elicited the help of her teenaged son, Patrick, to dig for answers.

Endless days in the saddle battling elements from snow to scorching heat was the norm for Lighthorsemen 150 years ago. More often than not, Chickasaw lawmen were not on the trail hunting famed outlaws. Mostly they searched for cattle rustlers and horse thieves, described by Mrs. Cooke as the most common criminal of the day.

A primitive image of Lighthorsemen is slowly developing in spite of spotty and sometimes convoluted research information. Some were U.S. Marshals serving at the pleasure of famed "hanging judge" Isaac Parker. Some were elected lawmen laboring in tribal territory following removal. Some were constables and deputies.

One fact is coming into specific relief for Mrs. Cooke. Resignations were frequent, hard-knock experiences and fast-paced gun play cost lives and the day-to-day drudgery for lawmen weighed heavy on their respective families.

Most lawlessness in Chickasaw Nation territory was pedestrian in nature and usually involved Texas outlaws who forded the Red River to abscond with farm animals, Mrs. Cooke's research shows.

Usually, those outlaws were non-Native which required their transfer to courts a great distance from Chickasaw Nation judicial jurisdiction.

"For the most part, if a non-Native was arrested in our territory, they would merely be housed until federal U.S. Marshals came to collect them," Mrs. Cooke said.

RAISING A ROOSTER

The "Hollywoodized" U.S. Marshal can easily be traced to western mega-star John Wayne. Characters J.D. Cahill, but especially Rueben "Rooster" Cogburn – the role that earned Oscar gold for him but only an also-ran award to remade "Rooster'"Jeff Bridges - were pure Wayne leitmotif.

In actuality, when not in a running gunfight with outlaws, life for a marshal was tedious, repetitive and dangerous.

Poorly paid – usually around $5 a month – and rarely in one place for any given time period, U.S. Marshals were stationed throughout America but were the only federal law agency allowed into the Territory.

This undated photo is in possession of the Chickasaw Cultural Center. A caption on the back of the photo reads: "Indian Police en route from Ravia, Indian Territory, bringing $100,000 to Tishomingo to be paid to Indians." Ravia is a small community just west of Tishomingo, the historic capitol of the Chickasaw Nation.

While St. Louis may have been gateway to the West, Fort Smith, Arkansas was the entrance to a vast western frontier crowded with outlaws, squatters, Texans, "sooners," the disenfranchised and impoverished. More territorial U.S. Marshals were slain in the line of duty in Indian Territory than in any other U.S. location.

A marshals' museum in Laramie, Wyoming, shuttered its doors in 2002. In 2007, Fort Smith, rich in frontier fact and fiction lore and complete with a historic district paying homage to Old West justice, was selected the new location. All Five Civilized Tribes crossed Fort Smith's threshold during removal to Indian Territory.

RAISING THE FUNDS

An estimated $59 million is required to transform museum dreams into reality. Thus far, $24 million has been raised including $5 million from an anonymous donor, Alice Alt informed a Fort Smith television station in a report aired Jan. 3, 2015.

Ms. Alt serves as director of development of the proposed museum that will honor Native and non-Native lawmen.

Chickasaw Nation Secretary of Cultural and Humanities Lisa John is on the Monument Design subcommittee in addition to representatives of the four additional tribes. An attractive drawing point for tribal participation is "the names of specific Chickasaw lawmen will be memorialized at the museum and there will be history of the Five Civilized Tribes' Lighthorsemen as well," Mrs. John said.

"The names of any Lighthorsemen killed in the line of duty who were cross-deputized as marshals … will have their names permanently inscribed on our Hall of Honor," said the museum's president and chief executive officer James Dunn, adding "we are gathering a list of the Lighthorsemen killed in the line of duty and tribal research could help us in this quest. We are currently developing criteria for inclusion."

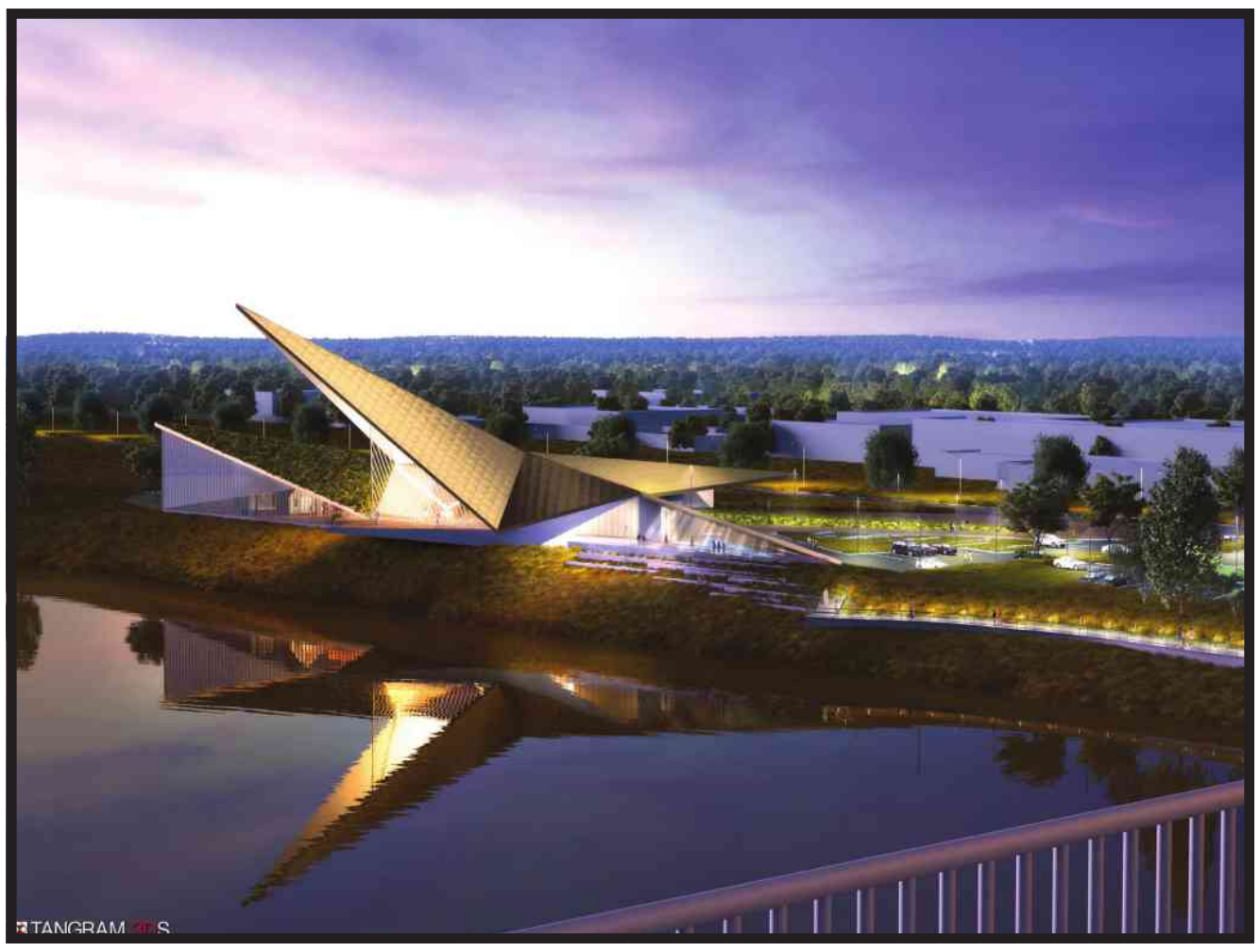
Ground was formally broken for the museum Sept. 24, 2014, 225 years to the day President George Washington signed a bill establishing the U.S. Marshals Service, the oldest law enforcement agency in America. While 2017 is the desired competition year, as with any project requiring fundraising, a final date is not set in stone.

Until that day, fundraising is paramount and two galas already are planned to burgeon the U.S. Marshals Museum coffers.

March 14 organizers are hosting a U.S. Marshal Museum Stampede and, soon, U.S. minted commemorative coins may be purchased. Chickasaws and others interested in honoring lawmen may visit www.usmarshalsmuseum.com for information and to contribute.

Mrs. John said contributions may be offered specifically to Chickasaw Lighthorsemen. Additionally, her office still seeks answers about Chickasaw lawmen. Information, photos, or even just a lead to information to expand knowledge of Chickasaw lawmen may be given to Mrs. Cooke at via email at michelle.cooke@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.



An artist's rendering of the proposed U.S. Marshals Museum. The facility will be a 50,000 square-foot national museum built along the banks of the Arkansas River in Fort Smith. It will offer visitors a view across the river toward Oklahoma, a view of the American West similar to what frontier marshals saw as they embarked into Indian Territory.

Hall of Famers commemorated in Honor Garden

‘Save the Date’ for Chickasaw Hall of Fame May 7

The 2015 Chickasaw Hall of Fame ceremony is set for Thursday, May 7, at the Riverwind Showplace Theater in Norman, Okla.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the banquet will begin at 6 p.m.

There is no charge to attend, but reservations are required for the event, which is expected to accommodate approximately 525 guests.

Reservations will be accepted beginning April 6. To make reservations contact Brielle Helm at (580) 436-7258 or email brielle.helm@chickasaw.net

Induction into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Chickasaw citizen by the Chickasaw Nation. For more information about the Chickasaw Hall of Fame, visit www.chickasaw.net/hof.

About the Chickasaw Hall of Fame and Honor Garden

In 1987, the Chickasaw Nation established the Chickasaw Hall of Fame. The Hall honors Chickasaws who have made significant contributions to Chickasaw people or the Native American community.

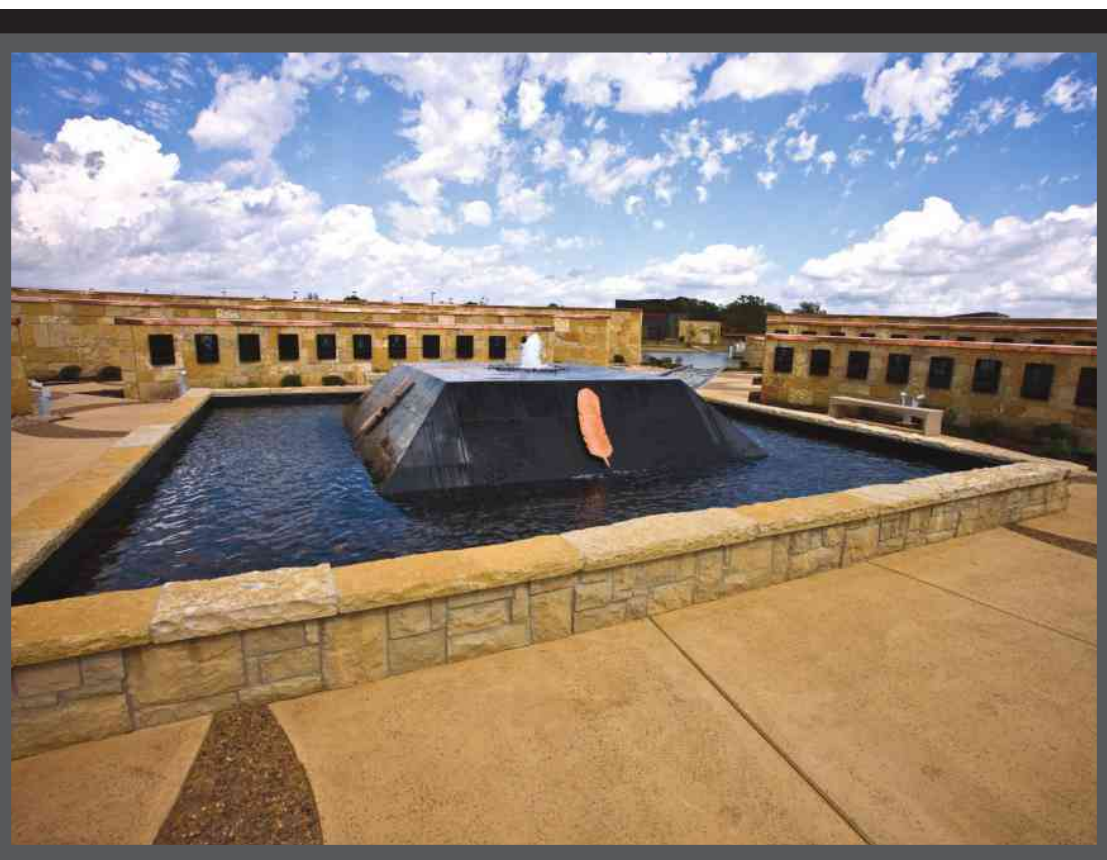
Since the Hall’s establishment, many Chickasaw men and women have been nominated and inducted into this prestigious circle of honor. Induction to the Chickasaw Hall of Fame is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Chickasaw by the Chickasaw Nation.

Plaques of Hall of Fame inductees adorn the Chickasaw Nation Honor Garden.

Located on the grounds of the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla., the Chickasaw Nation Honor Garden is crafted from natural elements including rock, granite and copper. The architecture is an original design inspired by the four directions and incorporates spiral symbols indicative of traditional Chickasaw culture.

At the center of the garden is a granite fountain adorned with copper feathers and natural stone.

Built as an official Oklahoma Centennial Project, the fountain sits in a pool of flowing water which is directed down a path through the garden. Come to the Cultural Center and enjoy a walk through the peaceful and moving Honor Garden.



The Chickasaw Nation Honor Garden located on the gorunds of the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla.

MINI MARCH MADNESS
5 ON 5
YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, MARCH 28 @ CHICKASAW HEADQUARTERS GYM-ADA, OK
REGISTRATION: 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
TOURNAMENT STARTS AT 9:00 AM
ENTRY FEE: $100. DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 20
AFTER DEADLINE AND DAY-OF FEE: $125 (FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE 1ST GAME)
BOYS AND GIRLS DIVISIONS:
• BRACKET 1: 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH GRADE TEAMS
• BRACKET 2:6TH, 7TH AND 8TH GRADE TEAMS
6 PLAYER ROSTER FOR EACH TEAM
T-SHIRT PRIZES GIVEN TO 1ST AND 2ND PLACE
To register, please contact Paula Brown 399-2343 or paula.factor@chickasaw.net
proceeds will go to About the Father’s Business Ministries. Please make all checks out to: About the father’s Business.

Triple J Powerwashing LLC
Heavy Equipment
Semi Tractors & Trailers
Buildings • Walkways • Parking Lots
Joey Nichols
(580) 504-4628

Bryan Conservation District offers trees

The Bryan Conservation District, in Durant, Okla., is taking orders for a variety of fruit and landscape trees. Orders will be accepted through Feb. 20.

For details, call Debbie at (580) 924-5464 or stop by the office at 200 Gerlach, Durant.

The Chickasaw Nation
Chokka’ Kilimpi’

Chikashshaat Imanokfila’ Ilokchina’
(Chickasaw Healthy Minds)
5k Run/Walk

Free 5K Run/Walk

On-site registration is available

Saturday, May 2, 2015

Wheeler Park
1120 S. Western Avenue
Oklahoma City, Okla. 73108

Certified Course, USATF Sanctioned, Timed Race
Through DG Production

Check-In begins at: 6:30 a.m.

1-mile Fun Run begins at: 8 a.m.

Toddler Dash begins at: 8:15 a.m.

5k Run begins at: 8:30 a.m.

Online registration at www.signmeup.com105712

For questions, call Renee Wilson at (405) 767.8978.

Packet pick-up will be at the **Oklahoma City Indian Clinic in front of the Wellness Center**.
5208 West Reno Avenue
April 29 - May1, 2015
10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

GUNFIGHT AT RED RIVER

By TOWANA SPIVEY

Like most boys of my generation, I was a frequent visitor to the darkened theatres watching western movies before television was affordable and readily available to the masses.

The Saturday afternoon matinee cost 10 cents and if you could afford popcorn and a Coke, you could spend the afternoon chasing outlaws for a total investment of 25 cents. Gene Autry, Hopalong Cassidy, Roy Rogers, Tim Holt and even earlier icons of the western movies such as Buck Jones and Bob Steele were my frequent companions in many thrilling adventures.

I was born and raised in the small town of Madill, Oklahoma with a few years spent in Hugo about 80 miles east during the period 1954-57. Both communities were just a few miles north of the Red River with the boundary of Texas beginning on the south bank of the river.

Gene Autry had spent his youth in a small community near the Washita River just a short distance north of Madill. His father worked for the railroad and it was here Gene first came to the attention of fellow Oklahoman Will Rogers while Gene played his guitar and sang in the depot.

About 35 miles northwest from Madill where the Arbuckle Mountains and the Washita River intersect, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were married on a ranch owned by Gene Autry celebrating their mutual successes as movie actors and singers. In 1942 the nearby town of Berwyn was also rechristened "Gene Autry" in honor of the famous cowboy.

Sometime around 1954-55, I had a unique experience with one of these western icons Roy Rogers. I had met many of the other cowboy movie idols during various promotional events or rodeos but this encounter with Roy Rogers "The King of the Cowboys" was different. While living in Hugo, my parents heard that the famous cowboy movie star and singer would be coming down Red River on a promotional tour for Yellow Jacket boats and would land on the Oklahoma side of the bridge that crossed to Paris, Texas. Being an avid fan, I talked my parents into taking me there to see him in person.

It was with great anticipation that we traveled in the old Ford to the Red River Bridge where a few other cars had pulled off the road side and a small crowd of fans was standing patiently along the riverbank awaiting Roy's arrival. I must admit to a certain disappointment seeing my favorite cowboy coming down the river in a boat instead of riding his famous palomino horse "Trigger" along the bank. However, it was still Roy Rogers, albeit in a boat.

As the small group of fans watched anxiously, the boat landed on a sandbar and the "King of the Cowboys" stepped onto dry land. True to form, he was wearing his white hat, light colored western shirt that glistened in the sun, dark fitting pants with fancy pointed toed boots and of course, his two shiny Colt revolvers in a double holster rig around his hips.

In recognition of the occasion, I was wearing my cowboy hat, a western shirt made by my mother, blue jeans, and the cowboy boots I had received the previous Christmas. In addition, I was also wearing my special "Roy Rogers" cap guns with white plastic grips in a double holstered rig at my waist.

When he noticed me in my outfit there was an automatic reaction as our eyes met and we both faced one another in anticipation of a challenge. This moment of silence was followed by a chain reaction as the "King of the Cowboys" and I automatically positioned open hands above our pistols. Our stern faces were frozen, squinting eyes narrowed to slits, and jaw muscles tightened without a trace of a smile.

It was time for a gunfight!

The small crowd parted between us leaving an open space without obstacles for the anticipated conflict. For what seemed like an eternity, we sized up one another, searching for a weakness or some faint hint signaling the opponent was beginning "the draw".

My parents moved aside with the rest of the crowd and the silence became deafening! A quick sideward glance confirmed my father was dressed in his typical attire, western shirt, blue jeans, pointed toed boots, and a silver gray Stetson hat on his head. Although he was a Chickasaw Indian, it was not unusual in the days of his youth for Indian boys to play like cowboys. I had inherited and played with his sheepskin holster and pistol made from the end of a wooden apple crate, his repeating rifle (an eleven shot rubber gun made from a wooden bed slat), along with his Texas Ranger badge from a Kellogg Cereal box. Gunfights were common in his time as well!

I had a tradition to uphold but somewhere in my mind, I immediately questioned the purpose of this challenge. After all, Roy Rogers was my hero! As any fan of early western movies can testify, good guys always wear white hats and bad guys always wear black or dark colored hats. Yet, standing in front of me, wearing his white hat, Roy Rogers was poised ready to draw on me!

Suddenly, I realized I was not properly dressed and possibly may not prevail in this gunfight since my hat was brown and although not black, it was dark and very similar to some that I had seen worn by the bad guys in the movies. This was not a good sign! In a youthful effort to rationalize the situation, I concluded that this challenge was not about "good or evil" but it was about who would be top gun in the Red River valley.

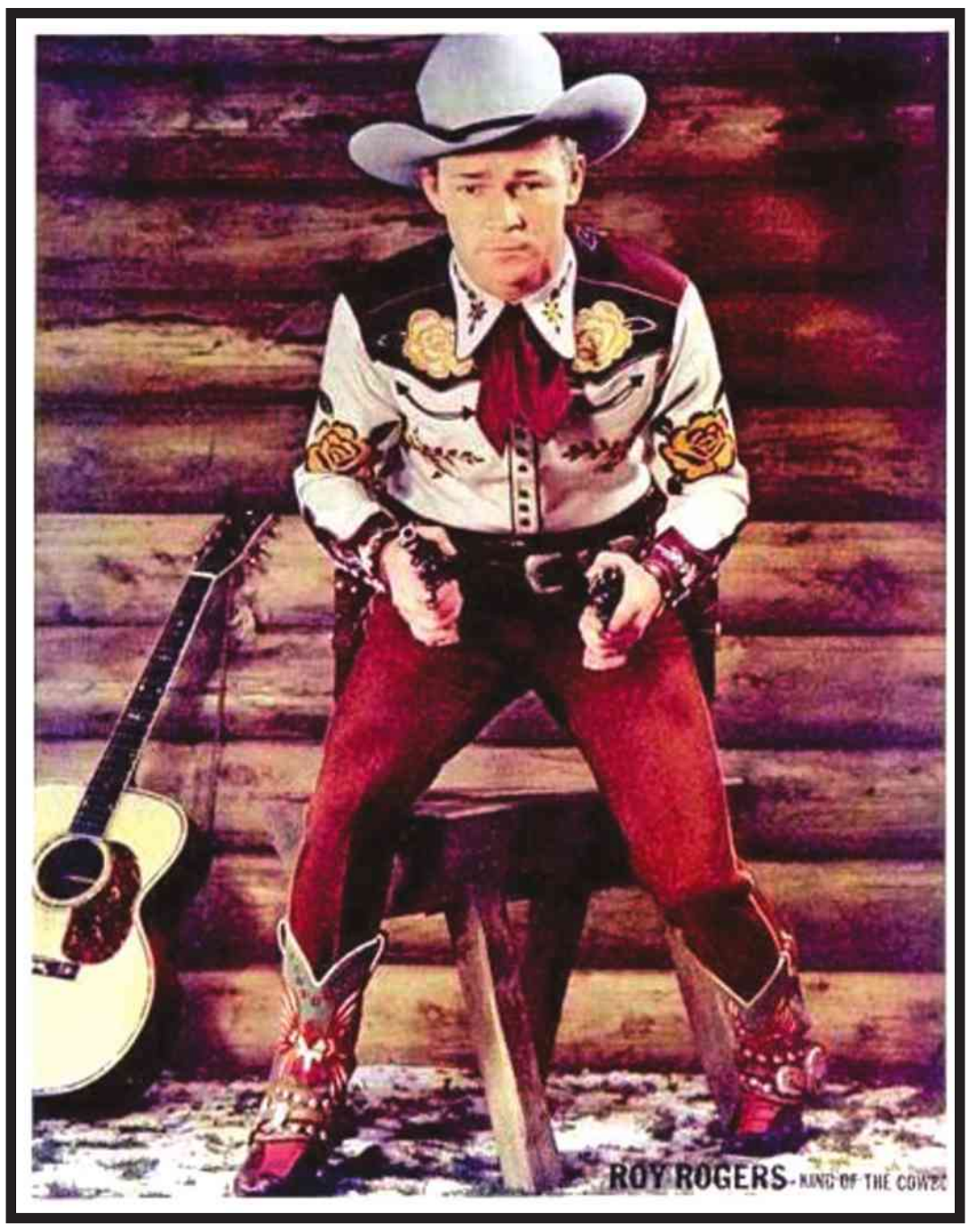
Although my resolve was somewhat weakened, I was determined to go through with it and as if signaled by a ringing bell, the "King of the Cowboys" and I both went for our guns at the same time. There was only one exploding sound heard from the aftermath of our draw—that of the paper caps exploding beneath the hammers of my two shiny Roy Rogers pistols. Out of respect for me, he had lost the draw (as witnessed by his failure to fire) and I had prevailed as the top gun in the Red River valley.

After signing a few autographs, Roy Rogers stepped back inside his boat before continuing downstream and around the bend until I lost sight of him in the distance. It was a brief moment in time when I experienced a collision of the sometimes violent and colorful past with the more popular and romantic perceptions of history that developed in later years.

Many years would pass before I fully understood the meaning of one of life's valuable lessons -that good guys do not always wear white hats and bad guys do not always wear black hats. Yet, the memory of that Saturday afternoon long ago when I experienced a gunfight on the sandy banks of the Red River still rings loudly in my mind.

About Towana Spivey:

Towana Spivey, a Chickasaw, is a historian, archeologist, author, artist, movie consultant, documentary film fact-checker, preservationist and retired director and curator of the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark Museum near Lawton. He was inducted into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame in 2012. Spivey currently is writing a book concerning horses of the Plains Indians. He and his wife, Phyllis, reside in Duncan.



Roy Rogers in a promotional shot from his days as a cowboy star.

Towana Spivey, prospective gunslinger, age 5.

Chickasaw Young Artists Studio

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities introduces the Chickasaw Young Artists Studio.

The studio is designed to help the growth of aspiring and emerging Chickasaw artists in grades 7 to 12 by providing supervised studio time.

Through the studio, students will book one of the 10 sessions allotted per week. During the sessions, the young artist will work on artwork with an assigned art instructor, build a portfolio and work on art for contest submissions. Students must bring their own supplies and only scheduled artists may be in the studio.

For more information or an application, please contact Cara Criswell, administrative assistant for the arts in education department, at (580) 272-5520.

Elders' Christmas Celebration

LEFT: Kathy Brookshire and Wilda Folsum, both of Duncan, Okla., enjoy the festivities at the Elders' Christmas Party at the Agri-Plex in Ada, Okla., Dec. 19, 2014.

RIGHT: Governor Bill Anoatubby greets guests at the Elders' Christmas Party in December at the Agri-Plex in Ada, Okla.

Chickasaw Foundation News

Chickasaw Foundation Announces New Scholarship

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce the *Pauline Walker Memorial Scholarship*. This scholarship was established by the family of Ms. Pauline Walker "to help her legacy keep the Native language (Chickasaw) and cultural alive."

This scholarship will be on the 2015-2016 application available in early spring. This award is for a full-time Chickasaw student who is a junior or senior undergraduate majoring in Native American studies and attending an accredited college or university.

If you are interested in our scholarship program, please contact the Chickasaw Foundation at (580) 421-9030 or visit our website at www.chickasawfoundation.org.

Memorial Donations

The Chickasaw Foundation was established in 1971 as a 501 (c) 3 organization. Every year the foundation is fortunate to receive many charitable donations including memorial donations. A memorial donation is a special way of remembering a loved one while helping others. Acknowledgement cards can be sent to family members, per your request, upon a donation being received by the Chickasaw Foundation.

Please contact the foundation at (580) 421-9030 if you have any questions.

Chickasaw Foundation Annual T-Ball Tournament

The 7th annual t-ball tournament will be this coming spring 2015 at the Chickasaw Nation Softball Complex in Ada. This will be a double-elimination tournament and only the first 10 teams will be accepted.

The entry fee is $75 before April 1, 2015 and $100 afterwards. The age cut-off date is January 1. Players must be 6 years old on or before December 31 to play.

Please contact the Chickasaw Foundation if you have questions or need information by calling (580) 421-9030 or emailing ChickasawFoundation@chickasaw.net.

Letter to the Editor

Celebrating our Chickasaw heritage

Re: News of our people

Dear Editor:

Native American Month was observed in Mrs. Georgia Lapp's 7th grade History class in the Humble Christian Academy, Humble, Texas.

Lillian Louise Haddock

The speaker was Mrs. Lillian Louise Haddock, Chickasaw. She brought artifacts from her home to share with the students.

There was the picture of her grandfather, WM Kingston Neighbors and his sister, Elizabeth Hardin, ½ Chickasaw. Also Winnie Neighbors Blocker, ¼ Chickasaw, Mrs. Haddock's mother.

Winnie's original birth certificate from the Indian Nation given to WM K. Neighbors and Ethel Evans dated July 15, 1900.

A framed picture of the Great Seal of the Chickasaw Nation, which she read aloud to the class.

Mrs. Haddock showed the class her Certificate of Citizenship and voter I.D., both signed by Gov. Bill Anoatubby, and a card issued by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs to verify her degree of Indian blood. The students took great interest in reading and commenting on these articles.

A couple of students spoke up that they were part Indian. One little boy knew he was a Cherokee descendant.

The students had written a paper on Indian History. Mrs. Lapp chose the best paper and read it aloud to the class.

Mrs. Haddock gave the winner a small gift of love.

Submitted by:
Lillian Louise Haddock
Daughter of Winnie Blocker, Original enrollee

Family gathers from across the country for Rodke family reunion

The first Rodke family reunion was held in Temple, Texas on November 9, 2014 in honor of the 80th birthday of Scott Patrick Rodke. Attending were cousins from New York, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Washington, California, and Texas. As far as is known, only two still live in the Chickasaw Nation, Pauline Rodke, of Paoli, OK, and her daughter, Pamela Filipelli, of Ada, OK.

The Rodke's are decendents of Dawes original enrollees, Lorenz Augustus Rodke, "Mr. Rodke", and his second wife, Elizabeth "Lizzie" (maiden name, Perry) (1st married, Wade) Rodke. Lizzie was the daughter of the original enrollee, Margaret "Peggy" (maiden name, Colbert) (1st married, Perry) (2nd married, Bishop) Lee and Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Perry (who passed away before the Dawes enrollments started for the Chickasaws.)

Mr. Rodke married Lizzie about 1885 in Stonewall, I.T. They moved to Roff, where Mr. Rodke managed a ranch north of town, and stared their family of four children. In 1904, they moved to their allotments at Florence Chapel community near Paoli, I.T., where they had one more child, prospered, and eventually had 14 grandchildren.

On Scott's bucket list was to celebrate his 80th birthday. We were very proud to see he was able to accomplish that item and be apart of it with him.

There were more than 45 Rodke's in attendance as well as other family members and many friends at this celebration. Many were meeting cousins for the first time.

Sadly, Scott died on December 4, 2014. He was known as an industrious, affectionate, happy member of his family with an honorable record in the Korean and Vietnamese war.

The family was unable to get in touch with two branches of cousins, the descendants of Wenonah (Rodke) Murray and Lorena Marie (Rodke) Bailey. If any of the children of Rod or Tad Murray, Larry Bailey or Tawanah Williams see this article, contact Facebook<Rodke Genealogy>.

Perri Cole, a junior at Deer Creek High School.

Chickasaw ballplayer tries out for USA Jr. National Women's Softball team

IRVINE, Calif. - A Chickasaw college softball commit recently attended the USA Junior National Women's Softball Team Open Tryout in Irvine.

Perri Cole, a junior at Deer Creek High School in Edmond, Oklahoma, took the field with players from around the U.S. in Irvine on January 2. Bill Barber Park in Southern California hosted top players from across the country to try out for the Junior National Team's Selection Camp.

Perri is a three-year varsity player for Deer Creek High School. Deer Creek made it to the 5A state tournament each of her years while playing there.

Perri plays summer ball with Oklahoma Machine 18U Gold, making tournament appearances around the country each season.

She is a utility player who primarily plays second and third base.

Last summer she verbally committed to play college softball at the University of Central Oklahoma after she graduates in 2016.

Perri is the daughter of Sean and Noelle Cole, of Edmond, and proud granddaughter of the late Chickasaw Peacekeeper, Smith Cole.

2015 Artesian Arts Festival *Call for Artists*

ARTESIAN ARTS FESTIVAL

Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities announces Call for Artists for the 2015 Artesian Arts Festival. The Festival takes place May 23 in Sulphur and artists may sign-up on a first come, first served basis. Applicants must be at least 18 and present documentation of citizenship in a federally recognized Southeastern or Woodlands Native American Tribe.

Deadline to sign up is March 23.

Applications are available on Chickasaw.net

For more information, please contact arts & humanities at (580) 272-5525 or email: artistinfo@chickasaw.net.

It's TAX Time

Lisa S. Huling, C.P.A.

(580) 332-3239

102 E. 12th Street, Ada, OK 74820 (Across from Aldridge Cafe)

Open Mon. - Fri., 9:00-5:30: Saturdays, 9:00-Noon and by appointment.

* Free Electronic Filing * Tax preparation fees can be deducted from your refund

Low Bank Fees: E1 Card (Debit/ATM Card - **No Charge**), Refund Check ($33.95)

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It's your money – so keep it!!

Walk-ins Welcome!!! Affordable!

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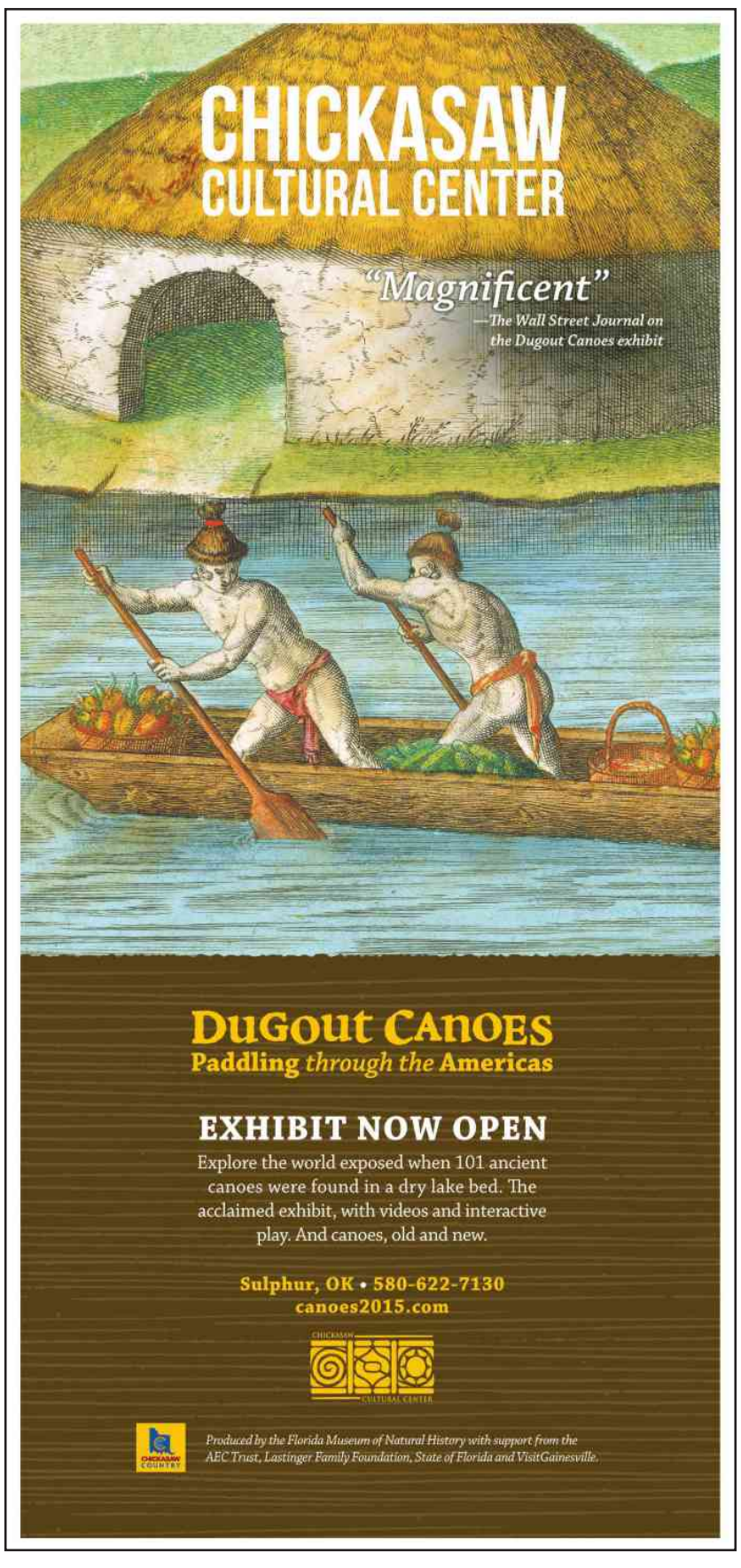
*Refund Checks can be cashed with no fees at local bank

*File your own taxes online at http://prep.1040.com/YOUFILEONLINE



December 2014 Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients

Bryce Ireland

Bryce, son of Jimmy and Shannon Ireland, of Ada, Okla., is a December 2014 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award for Citizenship.

Bryce Ireland

Bryce is in the seventh grade at Latta Public School and was nominated by teacher, Carrie Storts.

"Bryce is hard working, polite and always willing to help others. He is respectful all the time, not just sometimes," Ms. Storts said. "Bryce is a pleasure to have in my class."

Bryce has been in the gifted and talented program at his school for five years. He has been mentioned on the Noetic Learning Math Contest website for scoring in the top 50 percent of students in the nation. Bryce also enjoys playing basketball and watching movies with his family during his free time.

"After graduating from Latta, I plan on attending the University of Oklahoma and studying either engineering or writing. I would like to play on the basketball team too," Bryce said. "My dreams are to become an NBA player and writing narrative books in my spare time."

Erica Hanna

Erica, daughter of David and Linda Hanna, of Broken Arrow, Okla., is a December 2014 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award for Academics.

Erica Hanna

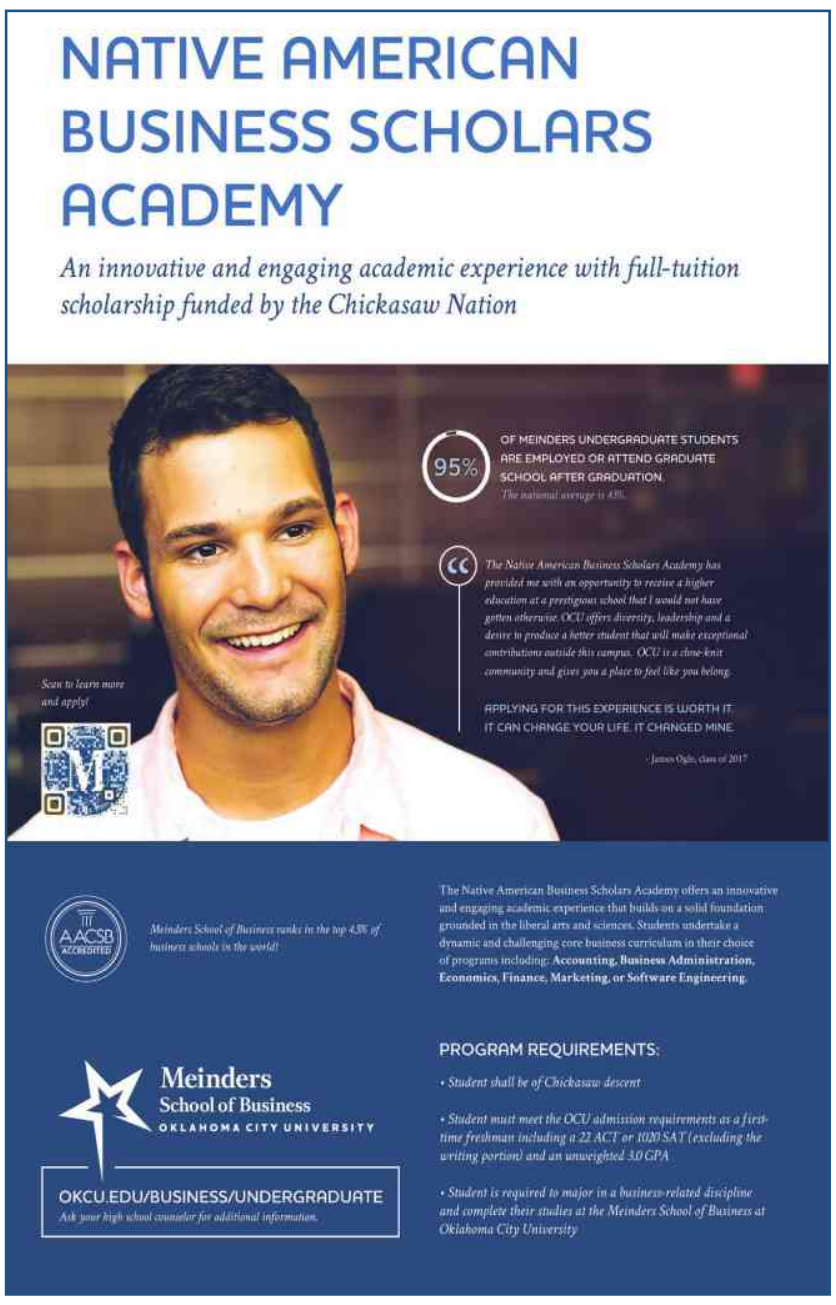
Erica is a junior at Broken Arrow High School and was nominated by teacher Brenda Lewis.

"Erica's work ethic, positive attitude and academic skills make her worthy of any recognition or scholarship that comes her way," Mrs. Lewis said. "As a student in my English class, she always has a smile and eagerness to learn. Erica is an outstanding student at Broken Arrow High School and I expect her to go far in life."

Erica enjoys playing the piano, writing stories and reading. She is on her high school's yearbook staff.

"Once I graduate from high school, I plan on going to college. I think I might become a teacher." Erica said. "I am proud to be Chickasaw and thankful of the support I receive from the Chickasaw Nation."

Full tuition business scholarship available to Chickasaw students



OKLAHOMA CITY – A full tuition scholarship funded by the Chickasaw Nation is available to Chickasaw students who wish to attend Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business, judged one of the finest business schools in the world.

Students of Chickwwasaw descent may apply for the scholarship with emphasis on the following:

- Must meet OCU admission requirements as a first-time freshman student.
- Must have a 22 ACT or 1020 SAT score and a 3.0 grade-point average.
- Required to major in a business-related discipline, which includes accounting, business administration, finance, economics, marketing or software engineering.

Students in the Native American Business Scholars Academy are involved in activities that prepare them for a successful career. Enrichment workshops, leadership experiences, real-world experimental projects, field trips, applied business research and internship opportunities are blended into a seamless learning environment unlike any other undergraduate degree experience.

To learn more or to apply for acceptance, visit www.okc.edu/business/undergraduate.

Chickasaw softball coach receives 'Outstanding Coach' award at gala

OKLAHOMA CITY – Awesome.

One word summed up Mike Crossley's experience at winning the Michele Smith Outstanding Coach Award Jan. 14. Mr. Crossley received the award during the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame's Warren Spahn Award Gala.

Mike Crossley accepts the Michele Smith Outstanding Coach award from Michele Smith at the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame's Warren Spahn Award Gala.

For the longtime coach of the state champion Newcastle High School girls' fast pitch softball team, it was the culmination of honors that came his way after winning his first state championship in 22 attempts.

Already named Oklahoma Coach of the Year, the Chickasaw citizen said being presented the award by Michele Smith was "awesome." Meeting National League Baseball's Most Valuable Player and 3-time Cy Young award winner Clayton Kershaw was "awesome," too.

"Michele Smith is arguably the best female softball player in the world," Mr. Crossley said. "Getting the award from her was … awesome. It was a great honor."

VALIDATION

"I think the most important element to come out of all the awards is it validated the program at Newcastle," Mr. Crossley said. "So many times we would hear our program wasn't dominant in the state because we had not won a championship. We'd argue by saying we've been there 21 times and would always hear 'but you haven't won a championship.' It was frustrating."

The championship drought ended in 2014 when Newcastle defeated Fort Gibson for the state 4A-2 title after 22 trips to the state tournament. Five of those trips included championship games. A shiny gold trophy is now on display at Newcastle High School.

"Now, I'll be walking down the hall and see my players and we'll just smile at each other. We did it. We're state champions," Mr. Crossley said.

Other schools are calling with coaching overtures. Mr. Crossley is politely saying "no."

"I love Newcastle, the school, parents, the fans, my players," he said. "I could not be happier. I'm coaching children of some of my former players. That is very special. Many of my former players were just as excited about the state championship win as I was."

WHAT YOU HAVE

Mr. Crossley's true love of Newcastle is based on teaching and coaching children and then enjoying a link to them throughout life.

"At the college level, coaches recruit," he said. "In high school, you build teams with what you have, with kids who come and try out. They bring differing styles, differing talents and differing attitudes. Some will be tall and skinny, others will be short and perhaps a little pudgy. So, you take what you have and build on it.

"You teach them to be a team and to overcome adversity. If you can touch a child's life that is having difficulties outside of the school structure, it is the most satisfying experience a coach can hope for. "Most of these students will only compete at the high school level. Make it fun for them. Make it educational. Make it important to them long after they graduate. I know it sounds like a cliché, but it isn't. The ball field is a microcosm of the larger experiences of life."

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Chickasaw Honor Club

The Chickasaw Honor Club provides added incentives to motivated and academically successful Chickasaw students. The Chickasaw Honor Club recognizes students in grades two through 12. Participants are recognized for Grade Incentive, Perfect Attendance and Outstanding Achievement.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Honor Club office at (580) 421-7711 or visit the website https://www.chickasaw.net/Services/Chickasaw-Honor-Club.aspx .

Chickasaw Nation structure represents early agriculture

Historic barn on National Register

The James H. Bounds Barn, located just outside of Kingston, Okla., was placed on the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places in 2013. The barn illustrates unique construction and early agriculture practices important to the state of Oklahoma. Photo courtesy of National Park Service and photographed by Brad A. Bays.

Few structures have had as much influence on the common person within the Chickasaw Nation as the humble barn. Found on small homesteads to sprawling ranches, anyone who has ever worked the land can appreciate these solid, dry structures. As unique as the family farms and ranches on which they were built, barns have become a part of the American heritage.

Every year these culturally significant buildings are being lost to the elements. Efforts across the nation are in place to preserve and restore significant barns in America, including the James H. Bounds Barn near Kingston, Okla.

Built more than 120 years ago, the James H. Bounds Barn was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. James H. Bounds Barn is a historical landmark in the state. It is a representation of farming and ranching practices in the Chickasaw Nation and Oklahoma between the late 19th and mid-20th centuries.

The barn was built before statehood by the family of James H. Bounds. Mr. Bounds, a non-Indian, obtained the land on which he built the barn within the Chickasaw Nation when he married an unidentified Chickasaw woman.

The Chickasaw Nation welcomed non-Indian farmers and laborers who settled their territory before statehood. Tribal law permitted permanent resident status to non-citizens married to tribal citizens.

Mrs. Bounds died while giving birth to her son, Young Bounds. James Bounds then married a Missouri woman and had two additional sons. The ranch was passed to the younger brothers when Chickasaw Young Bounds moved to New Mexico.

The James H. Bounds Barn houses four large corn cribs capable of storing 8,000 bushels of corn. It is the only barn of its type in Oklahoma. It was moved to its current location 1895, the headquarters of the historic Y-Bar Ranch. Photo courtesy of National Park Service and photographed by Brad A. Bays.

The barn is almost the same as when it was built. Corrugated tin was added at some time to its exterior for durability. The structure is 66 feet long by 60 feet wide. Located inside are four cribs for corn storage. Each crib measures 18 feet long by 12 feet wide and are 12 feet in height. The cribs are divided by large aisles running the length and width of the building. Built from hewn oak logs, the four cribs could store 8,000 bushels of corn.

The James H. Bounds Barn became obsolete as agriculture practices became mechanized in the 1950s. It continued to be used as a storage and hay barn.

The site of the barn was part of the headquarters of the Y-Bar Ranch. According to the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, the Y-Bar brand was Oklahoma's oldest continually-used brand until it was retired in the late 1980s. The ranch spanned across modern day Marshall County, Oklahoma.

National Park Service documents describe the property as having distinct characteristics and architectural style. The majority of these types of barns were built in southwestern Virginia, and in the Chickasaw homelands of what is now Tennessee. The property is an exceptionally rare four-crib log barn in excellent condition. It is the only known example of this archaic barn type in Oklahoma and one of only a few west of the Mississippi River.

The James H. Bounds **CONTRIBUTED BY** KC Cole, Public Affairs.

Kullihoma wild turkey hunt scheduled

KULLIHOMA – Chickasaws may begin stalking one of the nation's most elusive game birds in April, but registration to hunt wild turkey must be completed in March.

Chickasaw Rangers set a March 20 deadline for registration. Chickasaws wishing to hunt the wary, yet delectable, bird must be a citizen of the Nation and possess a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card.

The Youth Hunt will kick off the season April 4-5. Youth must be supervised by an adult 18 or over and have completed a state-certified hunter safety course.

Adult hunts will begin April 6 through May 6 at Kullihoma Campground, located east of Ada on Highway 1. Signs will direct you to the site.

For information concerning the hunt and registration, phone (580) 310-6466.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
December 19, 2014

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Connie Barker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

Member absent: Mary Jo Green

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel

Guests present: Wilma Pauline Stout Watson, Mike Watson, Marty Wafford, Heather Summers, Judy Parker, Michael L. Wingo, Dana Lance, Clint Hardison, Erin Harlin, Jeff O'Dell

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Mr. Perkins.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - November 21, 2014

A motion was made by Ms. Case and seconded by Ms. McManus to approve the minutes of November 21, 2014.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

12 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of November 21, 2014 carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Toby Perkins

General Resolution Number 32-002, Approval of Development Budget Amendment Purcell Community Center Phase II

Resolution GR30-006, passed in October 2012, approved the expansion of the Purcell Clinic with a budget of $5,100,000. This resolution increases the development budget amount for the Purcell Clinic Expansion project by $1,700,000 for a total budget of $6,800,000. The additional funding will allow the addition of up to 3,000 more square feet to include physical therapy and allow for efficient patient flow within the clinic. The additional space along with the increased construction and equipment costs over the last two years justify the increase in budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Perkins and seconded by Mr. Woerz to approve GR32-002.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

12 yes votes

The motion to approve GR32-002 carried unanimously.

Mr. Perkins concluded his report.

(B) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 32-003, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Stephens County

This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Duncan, Stephens County, Oklahoma, for addition to the Chickasaw Nation Chisholm Trail Casino property, containing 186,043.88 square feet or 4.27 acres more or less.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Hammond to approve GR32-003.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

12 yes votes

The motion to approve GR32-003 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-004, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Johnston County

This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, for addition to the Chickasaw Nation Capitol campus properties, 306 & 308 North Mickle Street and 404, 406 & 409 West 7th Street, Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Wood to approve GR32-004

Mrs. Alexander requested the Capitol Planning Committee meet with the Legislature and give an update on their future plans for the Capitol Campus properties.

Members voting yes:
Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case,
Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond,
Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz,
Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

12 yes votes

The motion to approve GR32-004 carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

There was no new business to report.

Mr. Mike Watson made comments on citizens rights to voice their opinions regarding tribal assets. Chairperson Barker announced the Elders Christmas Luncheon, at the Ada Agri Plex.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Elliott, Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature
Prepared by:
Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole · January 12, 2015

Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, Steve Woods

Absent: David Woerz

Finance Committee · January 12, 2015

Present: Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins

Absent: David Woerz, Steve Woods

Election Rules & Regulations Ad Hoc Committee · January 8, 2015

Present: Beth Alexander, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

Absent: Tim Colbert

Land Development Committee · January 5, 2015

Present: Beth Alexander, Mary Jo Green, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

Absent: Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert

Legislative Committee · January 8, 2015

Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood

Absent: Linda Briggs, David Woerz, Steve Woods

Strong partnerships

Governor Bill Anoatubby addresses the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce legislative committee on Jan. 16. Gov. Anoatubby spoke about recent tribal initiatives and discussed the important role strong partnerships played in the success of the community.

Photo by Marcy Gray

JANUARY 2015 RESOLUTIONS

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-005
Authorizing a Business Lease for Sand and Gravel Mining
to APAC Central, Inc. in the Arkansas Riverbed

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, APAC Central, Inc., a corporation, 755 E. Millsap Road, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703 wishes to enter into a five-year Business Lease for Sand And Gravel Mining on land jointly owned by the Cherokee Nation, Choctaw Nation and Chickasaw Nation, and

WHEREAS, the property being leased to APAC Central, Inc. is located along the Arkansas River located in the following sections: Sections 27, 31, 32, 33, and 34 of Township 11 North, Range 27 East, of the Indian Meridian; and Sections 5, 6, 7, 18, and 19 of Township 10 North, Range 27 East, of the Indian Meridian; and Sections 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, and 35 of Township 10 North, Range 26 East, of the Indian Meridian, in LeFlore and Sequoyah Counties, Oklahoma, containing 1,340 acres, more or less, and

WHEREAS, for the Business Lease for Sand and Gravel mining on such property, APAC Central, Inc. shall pay a minimum royalty rate, then a rate of $0.30 per ton for sand and $0.35 for gravel once the annual minimum has been met. Any underage of sand or gravel will not reduce the minimum royalty and cause a refund of the minimum royalty rate. After the minimum annual royalty rate for the year has been exceeded in any lease year, a remittance for any such additional materials removed within the appropriate monthly period must accompany the Lessee's monthly report. The royalties are paid 50% to the Cherokee Nation, 37.5% to the Choctaw Nation, and the remaining 12.5% to the Chickasaw Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes, approves and requests the Governor to sign the proposed Business Lease for Sand and Gravel Milling in favor of APAC Central, Inc.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on January 19, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-005
Authorizing a Business Lease for Sand and Gravel Mining
to APAC Central, Inc. in the Arkansas Riverbed

Explanation: This resolution authorizes and approves a Business Lease for Sand and Gravel Mining in the Arkansas Riverbed to APAC Central, Inc., a corporation, 755 E. Millsap Road, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703. The lease will be for a primary term of five (5) years with a $15,000.00 minimum royalty, then rate of $0.30 per ton for sand and $0.35 for gravel, once the annual minimum has been met. Any underage of sand or gravel will not reduce the minimum royalty and cause a refund of the minimum royalty rate. After the minimum annual royalty rate for the year has been exceeded in any lease year, a remittance for any such additional materials removed within the appropriate monthly period must accompany the Lessee's monthly report. A performance bond of $75,000.00 is required to be deposited by APAC Central, Inc. at the time of the approval of this lease by the Secretary of the Interior. This lease will be located on the Arkansas Riverbed and is jointly owned between the Cherokee Nation, the Choctaw Nation and the Chickasaw Nation, of which the Chickasaw Nation owns a one-eighth undivided interest.

Annual Minimum Rent $15,000.00 according to tribal share:
Cherokee Nation (50%) $7,500.00 per annum
Choctaw Nation (37.5%) $5,625.00 per annum
Chickasaw Nation (12.5%) $1,875.00 per annum
Location: Arkansas Riverbed, LeFlore and Sequoyah Counties, Oklahoma
Presented by: Land Development Committee

2014-2015 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District
Seat #

1. Toby Perkins
15810 CR 1569
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-2606
Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
620 Ann
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-4374
Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. Katie Case
14368 County Road 3597
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 272-8385
Katie.Case@chickasaw.net

4. Dean McManus
5980 CR 3430
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 235-2651
Dean.McManus@chickasaw.net

5. Mary Jo Green
2000 E. 14th Place
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 310-4563
Mary.Green@chickasaw.net

Pickens District
Seat #

1. David Woerz
P.O. Box 669
Ardmore, OK 73402
(580) 235-3240
David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
509 SW 7th Ave.
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-4175
Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
P.O. Box 241
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-7268
Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
801 North Mississippi
Ada, Oklahoma, 74820
(580) 235-1438
Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District
Seat #

1. Scott Wood
204 East Main Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460
(580) 221-1430
Scott.Wood@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
P.O. Box 773
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 421-7242
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
5071 Gray's Road
Davis, OK 73030
(580) 272-7270
Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District
Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
PO Box 246
Achille, OK 74720
(580) 272-7850
beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Eddie Vernon (Butch) Bennett

Eddie Vernon (Butch) Bennett, 69, entered into rest on Friday, October 24, 2014 at his home in Friendswood, Texas. A private memorial was on November 15, 2014 and Mr. Bennett was interred in Galveston, Texas.

Mr. Bennett was born July 23, 1945 in Houston to Edgar Vernon Bennett and Evelyn Virginia (Parker) Bennett.

He attended Port Houston and John R. Harris Elementary, Deady Jr. High, Ringling High School, Ringling, Okla., and Milby High School, Houston.

Mr. Bennett retired from the Petro Chemical Field with Brown & Root as construction manager and general foreman. He also worked with Stauffer Chemical Co., Horton & Horton Barge Lines, Hamm Brewery & Crown Central Petroleum. Butch enjoyed playing billiards, offshore fishing, his barbecue cook-offs, and most of all, the time he spent with his grandchildren, Baylee and Clyde.

Mr. Bennett was a descendent of Governor Thomas J. Parker, one of the first governors of the Chickasaw Nation. He was very proud of his Chickasaw heritage and to be a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

Butch Bennett was preceded in death by his wife, Juanita Marie (Lovell) Bennett; grandson, Blaze Connor Bennett; parents, Edgar Vernon & Evelyn Virginia Bennett; and brother, Harold Lloyd Bennett.

He is survived by his son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter, Mark Edward, Becky and Baylee Marie Bennett of Santa Fe, Texas; daughter, son-in-law and grandson, Kimberly Ann Bennett, Thomas and Clyde W. Hooper of Austin, Texas; sisters, Jerrie Kay LaCompte, Sharon Ann Hignight, Cynthia Lynn Erskine of Houston, and Peggy Sue Prather of Huffman, Texas; brothers, Gary Wayne and Jimmy Dean Bennnett of Houston; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He left a legacy of love and wisdom to all of those who knew and loved him. Butch fought the great fight with pride and dignity and he will always be loved and remembered by those whose lives he touched.

Donald R. Emerson

Donald R. Emerson, 72, of Mill Creek, Oklahoma died on January 17, 2015 at his home. Funeral services were January 22, 2015 in the Herb Clark Memorial Chapel with Rev. Randy Wade officiating.

Donald Ray Emerson was born May 14, 1942 in Mill Creek to Jackson Emerson and Mae Pearl (Durin) Emerson. After graduating from Mill Creek High School, he moved to Chicago and worked for many years as a photographer for the State of Illinois Judicial System. He returned to Mill Creek a few years ago. He was a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and two sisters, Edith Hubbard and Geneva Hamilton.

Mr. Emerson is survived by his wife, Christine Booth, of the home; two sisters, Jackie Neal, of Sulphur, Okla., and Oretha Ledford, of Marlow, Okla.; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Mr. Emerson's family served as pallbearers.

Billy Wayne Davis

Billy Wayne Davis, 55, died December 25, 2014 at his home in Kansas City, Missouri. A memorial service was January 26, 2015 at Trinity Baptist Church in Ada, Oklahoma. Cremation was under the direction of Heartland Cremation and Burial in Raytown, Missouri.

Mr. Davis was born November 6, 1959 in Ada to John and Carol Davis. He graduated from Ada High School in 1978 and attended East Central University. He married Maria Victoria "Vicki" Paris on August 25, 2001 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Through the years Mr. Davis worked in different positions, but for the last few years, he worked as caregiver. He was a member of the Chickasaw Nation and was very proud of his heritage. Billy loved University of Oklahoma football, the Kansas City Chiefs, reading, cooking, music, doing genealogy research, and seeing the sights. He had a big heart and loved his family.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Davis; grandparents, Ed and Cecile Blankenship, and Alvin and Maudie Davis; and uncle, Don Blankenship.

He is survived by his wife, Vickie Davis, of Kansas City; mother, Carole Davis, of Ada; sister, Johnna Morrell and her husband, Don of Lawton, Okla.; sister-in-laws, Martha Paris of Kansas City, and Elsa Paris of Bogota, Colombia; uncles, Charles Blankenship and his wife, Rose of Ada, and Alvin Davis and his wife, Ann, of Gallup, N.M.; Aunt Ima Jean Blankenship of Ada; cousins, Debbie and her husband, Steve Biele of Charlotte, N.C.; Chris Lewis of Corinth, Texas; Lori and her husband, Gary Ethridge of Choctaw, Okla.; Teresa and her husband, Gary Strong of Ada; Sheila and her husband, Bill Cheney of Idabel, Okla.; Susan and her husband, Craig Francis of Albuquerque, N.M.; and Judi Sommerfeld, of Olympia, Wash.

Virginia Smith Bohner

Virginia Smith Bohner, 85, passed away peacefully on November 28, 2014 in Littleton, Colorado after many years of living with Alzheimer's.

Mrs. Bohner was born September 18, 1929 in Norman, Okla., to Willie Jean Oliphant Smith, an original enrollee of the Chickasaw nation, and Matthew Hearn Smith where she was the sixth of seven children.

She grew up on her mother's Chickasaw land allotment near Newcastle, Okla. Virginia moved to Denver, Colorado where she met and then married Gene Bohner on February 3, 1956. They raised three daughters together, Victoria, Nancy, and Tina. She was a homemaker and at times a clerical worker. Virginia was very proud of her Chickasaw heritage and was very close to her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rex Eugene Bohner; a daughter, Vicoria Bohner; her parents, and by her siblings: Riley Smith, Oteka Smith Showalter, Charlotte Smith Lowe, Talmadge Smith, and Claudia Jean Smith McKinney.

She is survived by her daughters, Nancy Bohner Nobbe of Westminister, Colo., and Tina Bohner Oteka of Littleton; four grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and her brother, Kenneth Smith. of Oklahoma City, OK.

Harry Wesley White

Harry Wesley White, 95, died on November 23, 2014 in Oklahoma City. A memorial service was Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at the Memorial Park Historic Cemetery Chapel in Oklahoma City.

Mr. White was born January 26, 1919 in Maysville, Okla., to Samuel B. White Sr. and Grace Munchref White.

Harry attended Classen High School in Oklahoma City graduating in 1937. Following graduation he attended Pasadena Junior College and Oklahoma City University.

On November 16, 1940 Mr. White was inducted into the U.S.Army and served with the 45th Division. He transferred to the Army Air Corps, graduating from aviation cadets and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in May 1943. During the Second World War, Harry was the pilot of a C-47 based in Italy. He flew personnel and equipment from Italy to the partisans fighting the Germans in Yugoslavia. This was an extraordinarily dangerous assignment for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Harry married Billye Griffy in May 1945. They enjoyed a loving and supporting relationship.

Following his discharge, Harry joined Oklahoma Gas and Electric in their purchasing department in July of 1945. He made many life-long friends among his associates at OG&E. He remained there until his retirement in February 1981.

Harry enjoyed many activities. He and Billye were avid OU football fans for 30 years, seldom missing a home game and attending several bowl games. Harry also enjoyed golf, playing frequently, and watching tournaments on TV. Harry was passionate about the cars he drove. He chose them carefully and maintained them exquisitely.

Mr. White was a proud member of the Chickasaw Nation. In November 2008 Harry, along with other Chickasaw WW2 veterans, participated in a Chickasaw Nation sponsored trip to Washington D.C. to visit the National WW2 Memorial.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Billye; and his parents.

He is survived by a sister-in-law, Betty Wagner; two brothers-in-law, Ted Griffy and Tom Griffy; as well as three generations of nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Wanda Baxter for the patient support she has provided Harry in his last years and Dee Riley for the loving care she has provided during this period.

Harvey Norris, Jr.

Harvey Norris, 82, of Bethany, Okla., died December 18, 2014. Celebration services were December 22, 2014 at Western Oaks Christian Church. Honorary Pallbearer's were Charlie Conner, Mark Watts, Robert Norris, Coleman Prince, Foster Biggers and Cooper Biggers.

Mr. Norris was born to the late Howard and Alice Belle Bourland Norris in Oklahoma City.

Harvey graduated from Northeast High School in 1951. He was drafted into the U.S. Navy out of high school. He married Rita Ashworth Norris on November 18, 1952. The couple had recently celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary.

In 1957, he received his BA degree in Geology from the University of Oklahoma. He was a geologist for the State Department for four years after graduating. Then, he went to work for Miller-Norris Co., Inc., a company his father started, and worked as a salesman until retirement.

He was a lifelong fan of the Sooners, and a proud season ticket holder for 50 plus years. He later became an OKC Thunder fan. He loved athletics and coached many of his son's teams. He was actively involved in the Tri-City athletic organization and later became an avid follower of his grandchildren's events.

Mr. Norris was an active member of Western Oaks Christian Church. He was proud of his Indian heritage and was a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Rita Norris; brothers, Glenn Norris (Joann), Ethan Norris (Marianne); three children, Jeff Norris (Lizzette), Ty Norris (Keri), Kellie Biggers (Mike); six grandchildren, Robert Norris, Kathy Norris, Bailey Norris, Coleman Prince, Foster Biggers (Ashley), Cooper Biggers (Maddie Berge); and 1 great-granddaughter, Gabby Norris.

Alzheimer's disease had stolen away, bit by bit, his remarkable intellect, but he battled this illness with courage. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our wonderful mother as his devoted caregiver. 2 Corinthians 4:18, "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Charles E. Woody

Charles E. Woody, 94, died Friday, January 9, 2015. Services were held Tuesday, January 13, 2014 at Sunnylane Funeral Home in Del City, OK. Interment followed at Resthaven Memorial Gardens.

Mr. Woody was born in Tishomingo, Oklahoma to Guy and Ruth Woody and was a man of integrity and honor, and lived a life that exemplified his deep commitment to his faith, family and friends.

He graduated from Central High School, married and had a daughter, Sherran. Soon after, he joined the Navy where he served in WWII as a gunner's mate on the USS Fremont 44 in 1943. Upon returning from service he worked at the Acme Potato Chip Factory with his mother, father and new-found-love, Doris. Charles and Doris married and had two sons, Brice and Rex. Doris had two daughters from a previous marriage, Patricia (Tish) and Colleen. Charles dedicated his life to Doris and his children (yours, mine and ours).

Mr. Woody worked as an Insurance Agent and later became a State Auditor for Worker's Compensation where he retired after 23 years of service. Following retirement, Charles cared for his mother and ultimately his wife, Doris, until their passing. He was a selfless and loyal person. He was extremely proud of his Chickasaw Heritage as his father, Guy Woody, was an enrollee.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Doris, of 55 years; a daughter, Colleen; grandson, Jeffrey; and his parents, Guy and Ruth.

He is survived by his children, Sherran Bowlby, Tish Barber, Brice Woody, Rex Woody; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

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Anompa Himitta' Ilikba'shki: Creating New Words in Chickasaw

Languages change. They change internally as people move apart from each other. Over time, these changes lead to related yet distinct languages like Chickasaw, Choctaw, Seminole, and Muskogee (Creek).

Languages also change in response to contact with new people, places, and technologies. Speakers of Chickasaw responded to contact with Europeans in the fifteenth century, coining a word for horse, issoba / soba, from issi' ahooba "resembles a deer." Sometimes they reassigned existing words to new items. For example, the old word for opossum shokha' became the word for hog, and a new word was used for opossum chakwihili' "the one that grins" or shokha' choklhihili' "grinning hog."

Natural language change stops when a language becomes endangered, when children no longer learn the language in the home. Chickasaw began to see this language loss in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As evidence of this decline, the oldest "new" words in Chickasaw are not particularly new, about 50-100 years in most cases. The youngest native speakers of Chickasaw are now in their 60s, facing a rapidly changing world that older Chickasaw speakers either could not, or would not, account for in their native language.

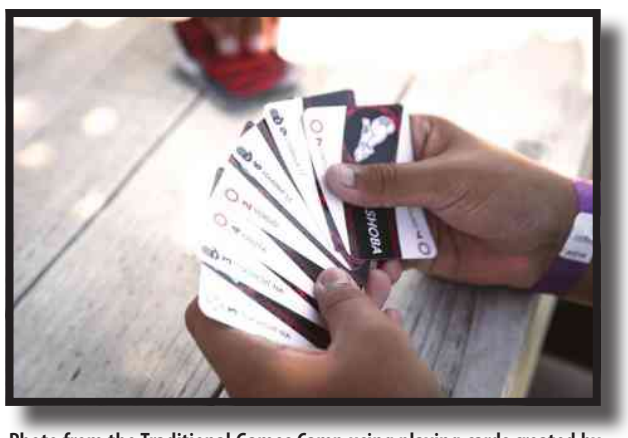

Photo from the Traditional Games Camp using playing cards created by the Chickasaw Language Department.

We found ourselves in this situation around 2008. We had a cadre of new learners who lacked the vocabulary to deal with their lives in contemporary America, particularly new concepts and technologies of which our ancestors would have never dreamed. We turned to the Chickasaw Language Committee, a standing committee appointed by Governor Bill Anoatubby, composed of native speakers of Chickasaw.

We discussed the need for new words and were faced with several choices: 1. simply say it in English, 2. borrow from a related language, or 3. create a new Chickasaw word. The committee agreed that it generally dislikes borrowed English words. Additionally, the committee did not want to borrow a word from Choctaw or Creek. This left option three: create a new Chickasaw word. So that is exactly what the committee did!

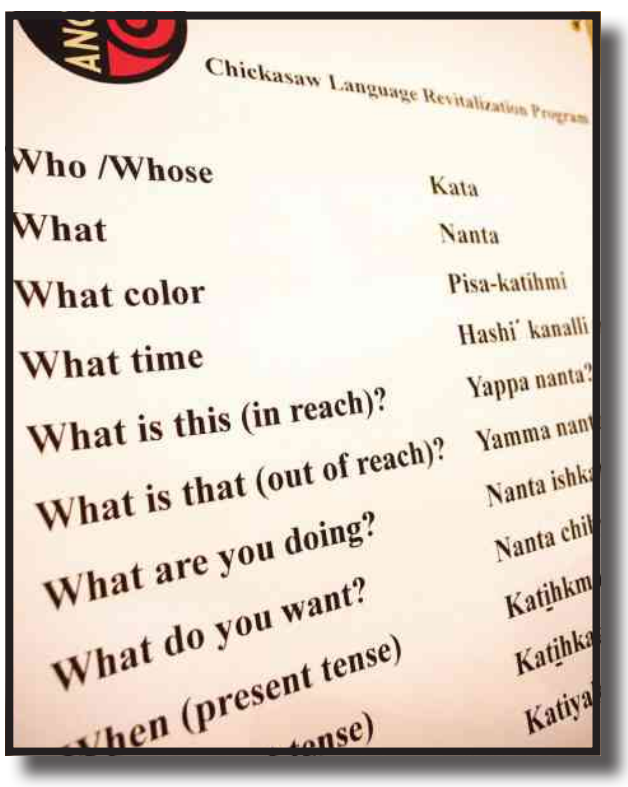

Photo from the Family Language Immersion Camp. The camp took place at the Tatanka Ranch which is just north of Stroud, OK and was hosted by the Chickasaw Language Department.

Committee members have met monthly since 2008, working on roughly four to eight terms per meeting. They vigorously discuss the terms, their etymology and meaning in the original native language (noticing that a majority of English words are also borrowings), and vote on the way that they want to say the new term in Chickasaw. In so doing they have created over

Chickasaw Language Committee

150 new terms since the inception of this work. Words like "cell phone," "text message," "zombie," "hedgehog," "unicorn" - all words learners of Chickasaw wanted to know how to say. Our speakers are growing the language once again!

Some Chickasaws may disagree with this work. Some believe it is not right to add to the language. They believe Chickasaw should be pure and unchanging. We do not begrudge them their opinions. Every Chickasaw is free to feel about, believe in, and use their language in the way that is right for them.

We know languages change. They must change if they are to remain viable for the future. Languages change or they die. The Chickasaw Language Committee and the committed learners of Chickasaw have a vested interest in seeing our language persist. We need our language if we are to survive as a people.

CONTRIBUTED BY Joshua D. Hinson, Dept. of Chickasaw Language

Anompa Himitta':

New Words from the Chickasaw Language Committee

hattak illapa' / shokha' hakshop kallo'	'armadillo'
naki' tokafishto'	'atomic bomb'
oktak shawi'	'badger'
nannishmallichi'	'battery'
choosi	'to choose'
inchoosi	'to choose for'
toksala'pa sikopa'	'dinosaur'
Ishshoka' Holisso	'Facebook'
shokha' haloppa', shokha' woksho ihaloppa'	'hedgehog'
nannola'	'iPod'
bashpo falaa' ashoppala'	'lightsaber'
anompa himitta'	'neologism'
anompa' ittibaakaachi'	'sentence, grammatical unit'
holba' ishtchokoshkomo'	'video game'

Chickasaw Language community classes announced for fall 2015 - spring 2016

ADA-*Located at Chickasaw Language Office*
Instructor-Emma McLeod
Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 3,10,17,24
March 3, 10,17,24,31
April 7,14,21
Contact phone-(580) 559-6195

ARDMORE-*Located at 1311 Stanley*
Instructor-Sue Simmons
Feb. 4, 11, 18
Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25
Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29
The month of May will be reserved for make-up days due to cancellations.
Contact phone-(580) 226-4509

PURCELL-*Located at Purcell Area Office*
Instructors-Leerene Frazier and Keith Shackleford
Mondays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Contact phone-(405) 527-5745 (please leave message)

SULPHUR-*Located at Sulphur Senior Site*
Instructor-Hannah Pitmon
Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Contact phone-(580) 371-7343

TISHOMINGO-*Located at Community Center*
Instructor-Hannah Pitmon
Tuesdays, Beginning Oct. 15 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Contact phone-(580) 371-7343

Please call instructor to confirm class before in case of illness, holidays, vacations ect .

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE
Achille Area Chickasaws
Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE
Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON
Chickasaws of Texoma
Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE
Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Thursday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY
OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Vicki Monks, 405-524-4506
Chickasawvic@gmail.com

PURCELL
Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Carolee Maxwell, 405-527-7676

ARIZONA
Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA
Southern California Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224
wchandler@socal.rr.com

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO
Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Bi-Monthly
Beverly Rodgers
(303) 719-3527

KANSAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, 316-945-9219

LOUISIANA
Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI
St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW ENGLAND
New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO
New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rita Yepa, 505-350-8372

OREGON/WASHINGTON
Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Charles Holland, 512-341-0024

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Ellen Brooker
ebrooker@swisd.net

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Saturday, Bedford, Texas
JOhn Atkins
972-271-0692

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244

Three Sisters Celebration

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is celebrating spring with the Three Sisters Celebration, set for Mar. 9-22.

The festival honoring the "Three Sisters" corn, beans and squash as well as the rebirth of spring, will feature traditional games and activities.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Cultural Center at (580) 622-7130.

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